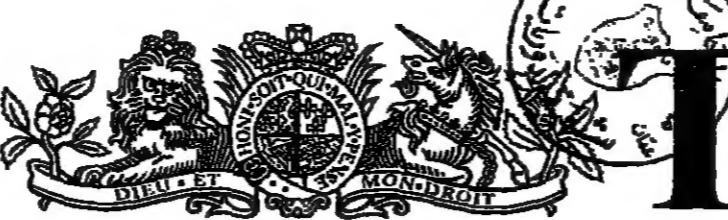


THE TIMES



35P

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TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 9 1997

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People's flowers join family tributes at Althorp island grave



DAVID JONES/PRESS ASSOCIATION

Earl Spencer walking among the flowers that carpet a shrubbery near his sister's island grave. He and his staff spent hours unwrapping and moving the flowers from the gates at Althorp

Palace denies royal dispute

BY ALAN HAMILTON, PHILIP WEBSTER AND DANIEL MCGROarty

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, Downing Street and Earl Spencer were united last night in angry denials of a report claiming a bitter dispute over the funeral arrangements for Diana, Princess of Wales.

Jon Snow had claimed on Channel 4 News that the Queen had stipulated that the Princess's body should not go to any of the royal palaces and that she should have a private, not a public funeral.

Her stance was said to have infuriated the Prince of Wales, who was reported to have sought the Prime Minister's help to overrule the Palace, resulting in the decision to allow the Princess's body to lie in the Chapel Royal at St James's Palace and to hold the funeral at Westminster Abbey.

Snow also claimed that the prince had a blazing row with Sir Robert Fellowes, the Queen's private secretary — and his former wife's brother-in-law, suggesting at one point that he "impaled himself on his own flagstaff".

The report further depicted the Prince of Wales, Earl Spencer and the Prime Minister as being lined up against the Palace, and appeared to

reinforce the view that the Palace totally failed to read the public mood after the death of the Princess.

Earl Spencer was said to have been enraged by the suggestion that his sister should have a private funeral, a reaction that was said to have coloured subsequent relations with the Royal Family.

And the Prince of Wales was reported to have called the Prime Minister from the flight deck of the aircraft taking him to Paris to collect the Princess to ask him to intercede over the arrangements. Tony Blair was known to have favoured a substantial state occasion from the start.

But the Palace last night dismissed the report in all its aspects. A spokesman said: "We can categorically say that this story is rubbish, and pure mischief-making. It is simply untrue. The funeral arrangements were made with the close co-operation of the Royal and Spencer families: there was no such dispute."

Downing Street joined the chorus of denial. A spokesman said: "It is factually wrong to say that the Prime Minister spoke to Prince Charles when the Prince was on the flight deck of his plane to Paris. No such conversation took place. It is also wholly wrong to say that Downing Street was involved in any inter-family

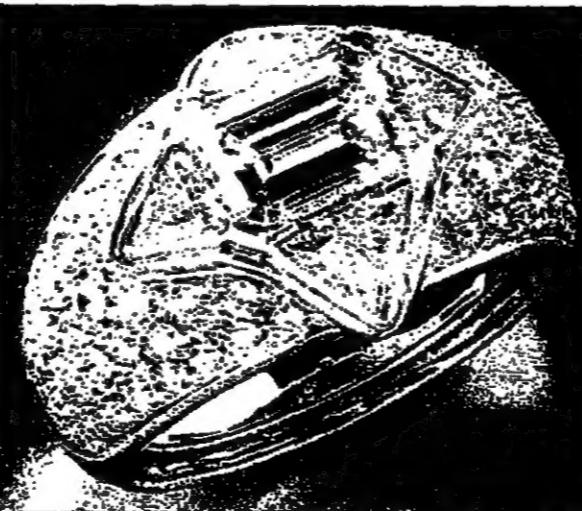
negotiations. That simply did not happen."

The Palace did, however, confirm that Lord Spencer had firmly rejected any suggestion that his sister should have her royal title posthumously restored.

Within two hours of the funeral, in which the Earl said his sister "she needed no royal title to continue to generate her particular brand of magic", he made clear to Sir Robert Fellowes that even if a posthumous restoration were offered, the Spencer family would not accept it.

The exchange took place on the train carrying family mourners to the Princess's private burial at Althorp.

A Palace spokesman said that the Spencer family had been consulted: "Their very firm view was that the Princess herself would not have wished for any change to the



The £130,000 diamond ring presented over dinner

style and title by which she was known at the time of her death. The Spencer family itself also did not wish for it to be changed."

Palace sources insisted that at no time had Sir Robert made any offer; the subject had been broached only because the Palace had had a number of calls from newspaper urging the Queen to restore the title. But there was little doubt that had the Earl wished it, the Queen would have given serious consideration to restoring the title, which the Princess surrendered voluntarily during her divorce negotiations.

Yesterday Lord Spencer Continued on page 2, col 5

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Tide of flowers, page 5

Libby Purves, page 18

Letters, page 19

Photograph, page 24

Princess chose ring given on fatal night

BY BEN MACINTYRE AND STEPHEN FARRELL

A MONTE CARLO jeweller confirmed last night that Diana, Princess of Wales, had chosen the £130,000 diamond ring that Dodi Fayed presented to her on the night of their fatal car crash.

However, Alberto Repossi said he did not know if Mr Fayed intended it as an engagement ring as he never discussed such confidential matters with customers. "These are the sort of intimate things of which one does not speak," said M Repossi, who also has a boutique opposite the Ritz Hotel in Paris's Place Vendôme.

The emerald-cut stone surrounded by four triangle diamonds was selected by the Princess in Monte Carlo and sent to Mr Fayed for presentation to her over dinner a few hours before the crash.

"I am deeply moved by the fact that this ring will be forever associated with the tragic love story of the Princess," M Repossi said.

The ring, found in the wreckage of the Mercedes, was part of a line of engagement jewellery named *Dis moi oui*. It recently featured in an advertising campaign in society magazines under the slogan: "A little yes, for the happiest day of her life." M M Repossi is a third-generation

gem dealer whose grandfather opened the family's first shop in Italy in 1920. Jean Germer, of Hatton Diamonds in London, said that the central diamond alone could be up to three carats and worth

£60,000. She said: "It is more than a cluster, we would classify it as possibly a reproduction of an antique ring, they have this kind of look. It is a very fine piece."

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Carey to defend unions' rights

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Archbishop of Canterbury is expected to provoke political controversy today by publicly endorsing the Government's plans to grant statutory recognition to trade unions.

In the first speech by an Archbishop of Canterbury to a TUC conference, Dr George Carey will make clear that he backs the view of Roman Catholic bishops — that workers have rights, including the right to join trade unions and to go on strike, and are not commodities to be bought and sold according to market requirements.

He is expected to say that it is not consistent with ecumenical Christian concerns for workers to be denied a say in decisions concerning them, or denied a right to be represented by a trade union of their choice.

He will tell the conference: "I believe that, in broad terms, employers have a

moral responsibility to recognise the chosen representatives of their employees." And he will go on to say that it is unjust when people suffer victimisation on grounds of their membership or taking part in "legitimate" union activities.

The Archbishop, who will mention his own past membership of two unions, will also spell out "fundamental values" that Christian churches have in common with trade unions.

His insistence that employers have a moral obligation to recognise trade unions comes after TUC named a number of companies it accused of refusing recognition in spite of their workers wanting unions.

The Prime Minister will also support the plans for recognition when he addresses the conference in Brighton later today. But yesterday he was accused of watering down a clear promise on job rights made by his predecessor John Smith.

John Edmonds, General Secretary of

the GMB general union, criticised the Government for coupling its proposal for union recognition with an insistence on maintaining Britain's economic competitiveness and on keeping a flexible labour market.

Tony Blair is insistent that Labour proposals on jobs must be compatible with employment flexibility. But the GMB leader told the TUC conference: "A flexible labour market? When I hear the Labour government using Tory phrases, I shiver a little."

In a clear reference to the Prime Minister, he said: "People who tell us that flexibility must be encouraged at all costs should not defend a law that makes working people who change jobs wait for two long years to achieve even the most modest protection against unfairness at

Continued on page 2, col 5

John Lloyd, page 18
Leading article, page 19
TUC at Brighton, page 26



Blair appeal

Tony Blair pressed for a double "yes" vote in the Scottish devolution referendum campaign, telling people in Glasgow and Edinburgh that there was nothing to fear except fear itself. He urged supporters: "Have courage and keep the faith" — Page 8

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Ofsted pulls plug on Uncle Brian

Inspectors criticise school over 'sexist' science game and for sport during break-time, reports David Charter

VILLAGE youngsters were happy when their primary school used a children's entertainer to teach them about electricity in a fun way. Uncle Brian lined up a group of four boys and a group of four girls, then they held hands to complete a circuit so that a weak current could light a bulb.

Weeks later, the school found that the lesson had been condemned by a school inspector. The problem was not the teaching method but "practices which reinforce gender divisions". The boys and girls, said an official report, should have been in mixed-sex groups.

That was not all. Brimpton and Sawdon Primary School, near Scarborough in North Yorkshire, which has been praised by the local secondary head teacher for high standards in English and mathematics, was also criticised for running competitive team sports at breaktime and for failing to give children in an all-white community an "appreciation of the multicultural nature of Britain".

Yesterday the inspection agency Ofsted was handling an official complaint from the school about "political correctness" after a meeting of angry parents heard that the school had failed its inspection.

Governors accepted criticisms that lessons for five to seven-year-olds were poorly planned, but fiercely chafed

lenged other conclusions. The lead inspector, Kath Wallace, said the 39-pupil school for children aged 5 to 11 was not making boys and girls work in mixed groups: "Apart from the very youngest children, pupils are only prepared to work in single-sex groups and this is not challenged by teachers."

The school's emphasis on playing team games at breaktimes was criticised for having a "negative influence on the social development of pupils and is overdependent upon the head teacher to organise it". Elsewhere, the school is praised for its "high standards" in sport.

Mark Evans, the chairman of governors, said he was upset by the approach used by the inspectors, especially over Uncle Brian. "I think this was the result of an unlucky misunderstanding illustrating the old saying 'No good deed ever goes unpunished'."

The entertainer — real name David Reid-Frow — is the son of a school governor. Mr Evans said: "He offered to do some simple experiments with the children to illustrate electricity. Four boys and four girls stood in a line with wire and had to connect it to a battery and make a light come on. Because it was not two boys and two girls in each team, we were criticised."

The school was also condemned for not encouraging the pupils to explore their



David Reid-Frow's work as Uncle Brian was criticised for "reinforcing gender division" through dividing a group into boys and girls

he came in with the best of intentions. I am sure the children enjoyed it greatly. Boys and girls mix perfectly naturally here, they play together at break and treat each other well."

The school was also condemned for not encouraging the pupils to explore their

cultural heritage or to have an appreciation of the multicultural nature of Britain". Mr Evans said: "I recognise the inspector has a job to do and she found fault with some of the teaching. That is fair. But this implies, because we are basically an all-white part of the country, that no one is

interested in anything else other than the history of North Yorkshire, which is not the case. We teach the national curriculum in full."

Brenda Frow, mother of the entertainer, said: "There are only 11 children in the infant class. My son chose the children he felt would be helpful to

him, those who wanted to be involved. It is just the way it happened."

A spokesman for Ofsted said: "We cannot comment on the detail of the report. We have no doubt that the essential judgment that the school is failing is correct, but we acknowledge the school has

registered a complaint, which will be investigated."

He said the findings criticised as "politically correct" would not, on their own, have led to the school failing. "They are not fundamental. What is important is the quality of teaching and learning, and the progress pupils are making."

Bernard heads for the final furlong

JEFFREY BERNARD, whose third favourite occupation after drink and sex was gambling on horses, is to have his ashes buried at the Gallops, the training ground at Lambourn, Berkshire.

The decision has been taken by the two brothers of the 65-year-old Soho habitué and *Spectator* columnist, who died on Thursday. It has yet to be agreed by Lambourn officials.

Oliver Bernard, 71, who was the eldest brother, said: "He lived near there, he loved the place — it's very beautiful — and he had some very good friends there among the trainers and jockeys. There's no room to bury him in Soho."

"It's just a question of getting hold of a trainer who was a particular mate of Jeffrey's and ensuring he arranges it."

He said that his brother, who wrote for *The Sporting Life* before being sacked for an indiscretion at a race meeting, was not particularly successful at backing horses.

Last year the writer netted £800 after backing the Grand National winner Lord Gyllene at 14-1. But his gambling proved costly in 1986 when he was fined £200 for running an illicit book at the Coach and Horses, the Soho pub that he frequented.

The burial of the urn is planned for Friday after a service at West London Crematorium in Kensal Green. There will be no officiating priest. "He had no interest in organised religion," said his brother.

Woman stabbed on common 'knew her killer'

By PAUL WILKINSON



Rachel Barracough: regular churchgoer

A TEENAGER stabbed to death on a common probably knew her killer, police said yesterday.

Rachel Barracough, 18, described as a shy churchgoing young woman, died from wounds inflicted with a 5in knife. Her body was discovered on Sunday night, 24 hours after she left home for a night out with friends in Wakefield, west Yorkshire. Three men out for a walk found her body on Heath Common on the outskirts of the city.

Police were yesterday unclear about the motive for the killing. She was fully clothed and had not been sexually assaulted, but had no money on her.

Detective Superintendent John Holt, leading the murder hunt, described her death as an "exceptionally violent murder" and said the person responsible was capable of doing it again and must be considered extremely dangerous.

He said: "I believe she was comfortable in the company of the person responsible for this horrific attack. Although she went willingly to Heath Common, we do know that she put up a struggle. She has received a number of defence wounds to her hands. There is a possibility that her attacker might have received some sort of injury, either from Rachel trying to defend herself, or he may have been injured during the course of the attack."

Miss Barracough, from Bradford, was last seen by the taxi driver who dropped her off at Bradford Interchange railway station on Friday night to catch a bus to Wakefield. When her body was found she was wearing her satin clothes: a short, black satin skirt, a burgundy blouse and a black bomber jacket with an imitation fur collar.

Mr Holt said he believed Rachel had not been abducted and dumped but died at the scene, 40 yards from the nearest path and a mile from the nearest road. The common is popular with joggers and people walking their dogs. The murder weapon has not been found.

He described the victim as a normal, attractive 18-year-old girl, "full of life", who was a regular member of her local church. He appealed for anyone who saw her to come forward so they could piece together her final hours.

Yesterday her father, Malcolm Barracough, a maintenance engineer, and her mother Hilary, were too distressed to appear at a press conference.

Years of guilt led murderer to confess

By ADAM FRESCO

SEVEN years ago, Andrew Aiken took a 4lb hammer and battered to death a friend after a drunken argument. Yesterday a court was told that he had wandered the globe, "tormented by guilt", until he could stand it no more and flew home to Britain, where he confessed to police and begged for the death penalty.

Aiken, who represented himself in court, killed Lawrence McDonagh, aged in his 40s or 50s, at their squat in Hackney, East London, in 1990. He dragged the body into the cellar and buried it in a sleeping bag. Friends, unaware that the body was underfoot, helped him to concrete over the floor.

Shortly after the murder of the busker he had met at a London Tube station, Aiken left the country, the Old Bailey was told. He ended up in Picton, south of Sydney, Australia, and joined a group called the Community Apostolic Church and told them his story. They persuaded him to give himself up and in June this year he returned to Britain. He was met at Heathrow in June by a member of the church from Kent who helped him to type his confession.

Brian Altman, for the prosecution, said: "He asked for his life to be taken in an exception to what he described as the current insufficient punishment."

On June 5 this year Aiken went to Scotland Yard and led officers to the body. Judge Clive Tayler, QC, adjourned sentencing until Friday for psychiatric reports.

Brief encounter with new Mini shows minor change

By KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT



Rover's new Mini has strong links with the original

THE Mini for the next century broke cover last night — and it looks like a Mini. Rover was allowed to show the successor to Britain's best-selling car, but only for a few seconds, by the company's owners, BMW.

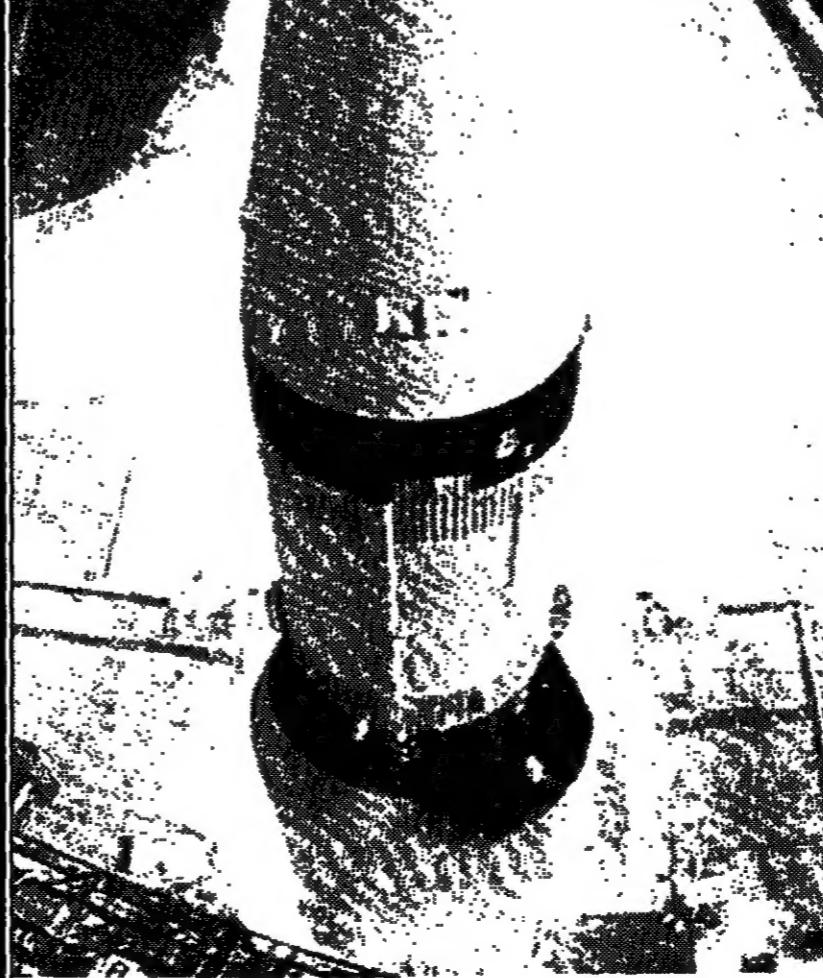
The fleeting glimpse was enough to allay fears that the new Mini would be a radically styled, bug-eyed car. The next Mini will look very like the 10ft box on wheels designed 40 years ago by Sir Alec Issigonis. Rover's designers have cleverly incorporated modern styling cues into the familiar Mini shape, dictated by the fact that the car will not follow the fashion among competitors for moving the engine further back.

The engine will stay under the bonnet, where Sir Alec originally put it, placed sideways and powering the front

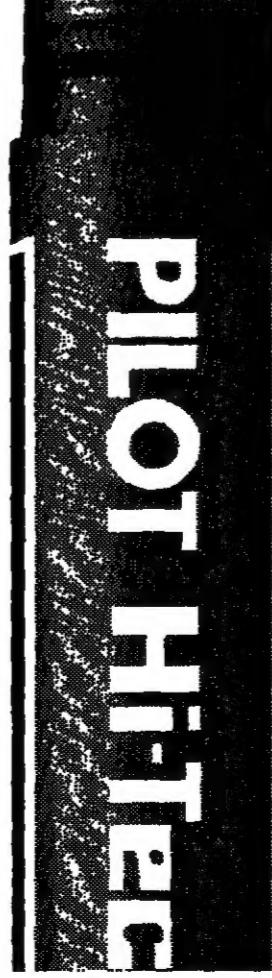
wheels. But the car will be slightly longer than the original, roomier and safer. It will also be "unashamedly sporty", according to Rover.

The Mini will be Rover's most important car for the next century, replacing the current model and the Metro (now badged 100) and with potential sales at more than 100,000 a year.

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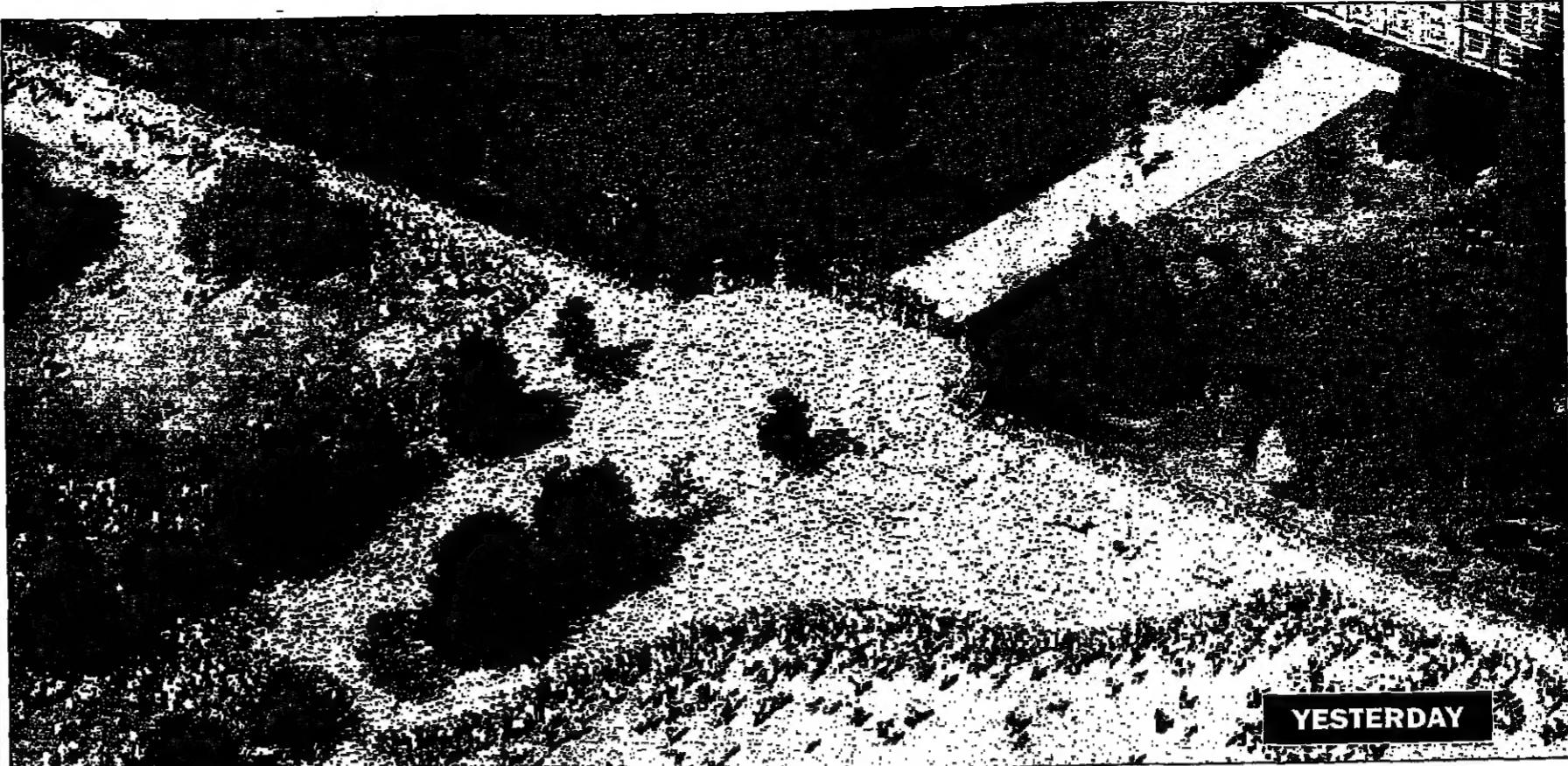
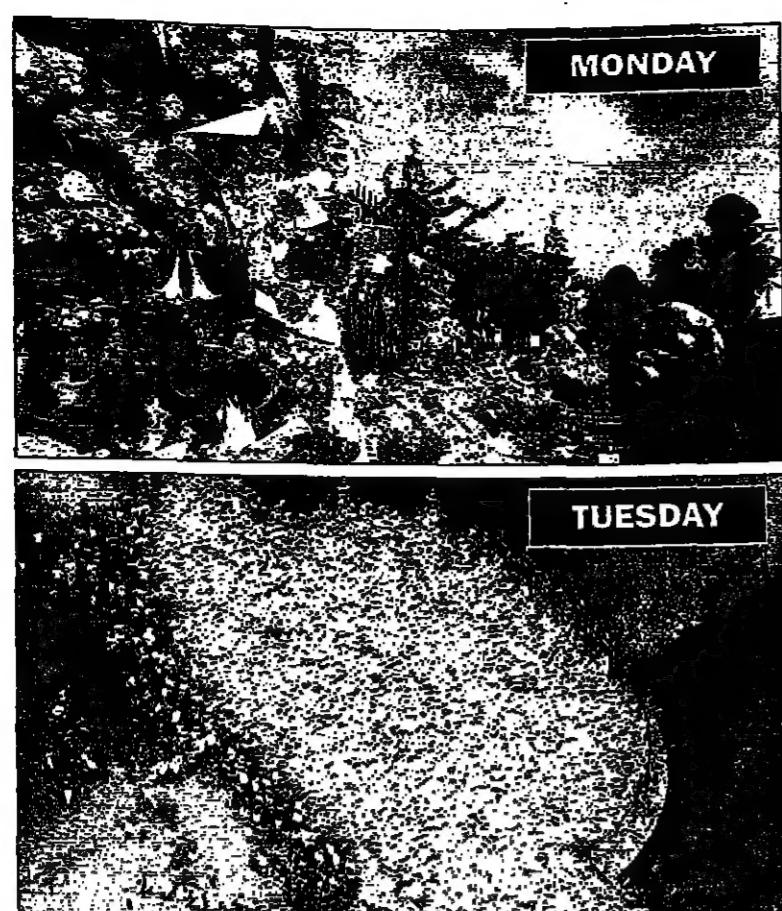


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Tide of flowers overwhelms the palaces



The carpet of flowers has spread outside Kensington Palace. An estimated £25 million has been spent on 1.3 million bouquets laid in the Princess's memory

The operation to collect tributes has been postponed as thousands more are laid, reports Daniel McGrory

THE clearance of flowers laid in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, outside the three London palaces has been postponed because many people are still placing tributes.

Volunteers were due to begin the task of removing the estimated 1.3 million bouquets and displays today, but it was realised that they would have difficulty reaching them because of the crowds still flocking to the palaces.

The Royal Family and Earl Spencer agreed that the cleanup operation should not be rushed. A spokesman for Lord Spencer said: "He finds it all very moving and believes people should be allowed to express their grief."

Police were forced to keep The Mall and Constitution Hill closed yesterday because of the throng of people carrying armfuls of flowers. They will attempt to open the roads today.

The government department organising the clean-up, said last night that the removal would not begin "until Thursday at the earliest". It could take the volunteer army of Scouts and other youth organisations up to six weeks to remove more than 10,000 tonnes of flowers already left. It is estimated that more than £25 million has been spent on floral tributes.

The Department of Media, Culture and Sport said that it had not begun to estimate the cost of the collection. A spokesman said: "The public feel

very strongly that these displays should be treated with sensitivity and the Government recognises that. A lot of effort and emotion went into creating this unprecedented show of public affection."

The Government has guaranteed that every bouquet will be collected and every written tribute that is still legible will go to the Princess's family.

Members of the public were last night telephoning the department and Buckingham Palace asking if they still had time to add their tributes. "Everyone is being assured they can still pay their respects when they choose," the spokesman said.

Eventually areas at Kensington Palace, Buckingham Palace and St James's Palace will be set aside for new tributes, to allow the removal of bouquets that have been there more than a week.

"The longer the flowers stay out in the open the less chance there is of us being able to send some to hospitals and old folk's homes," the spokesman said. "The other worry is the weather damaging and erasing so many of those wonderful written tributes."

The wait to sign one of the 43 books of condolence in Kensington Palace was yesterday down to just over two hours. The books will be open 24 hours a day until Monday and then will be given to the Spencer family.

Australian anger, page 13

Survivor was only one in seatbelt

BY BEN MACINTYRE

THE Princess was not wearing a seatbelt when the Fayed limousine crashed at speed in a Paris tunnel, police confirmed yesterday.

The only person inside the car wearing a seatbelt was the bodyguard, who survived, a senior police source said, confirming longstanding speculation. The car's driver, Henri Paul, was also not wearing his seatbelt.

Trevor Rees-Jones, the bodyguard, was said to be recovering well from head and chest wounds. The British Embassy said he was still unable to speak to police about the accident. Doctors dismissed reports that he had suffered brain damage or had lost his tongue.

The embassy statement said: "He has started on a long road to what we expect will be a full recovery. It will be some time before he is able to speak to investigators." A facial reconstruction operation was carried out last Thursday.

Mr Rees-Jones, 29, is under heavy sedation and believed to be only intermittently conscious in the intensive care unit at La Pitié-Salpêtrière hospital. Earlier news reports claimed that his family had said Mr Rees-Jones was deeply upset and felt partly responsible for the tragedy.

However, a hospital spokeswoman said that doctors doubted whether the injured man had recovered sufficiently to talk to his family.



McCartney: involved

Branson to make tribute CD

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN

SIR Paul McCartney, Eric Clapton and Phil Collins have offered songs for a Christmas tribute album in memory of the Princess. Proceeds will go to her memorial fund.

Richard Branson, the Virgin entrepreneur who is putting together the album of sad songs, is also planning three rock concerts on the anniversary of the Princess's death next summer, to be held simultaneously in Hyde Park, New York's Central Park and at a venue in Paris.

Mr Branson said that the album would contain some of rock's most moving songs and he hoped it would include Elton John's new version of *Candle in the Wind*. The idea is to bring out an album that would reflect Diana's life. The artists are trying to create the most moving album ever released. He thought it could raise huge sums for charity.

Sir Paul's contribution will be *Little Willow*. Eric Clapton and Phil Collins will record *Since I Lost You*.

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Total Credit Price	£21,240.00	

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Total Credit Price	£21,511.44**	

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Deposit	£99.00	
Monthly Repayments	£202.17 x 48	
Total Credit Price	£21,903.16**	

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Deposit	£4,120.00	
Monthly Repayments	£171.67 x 24	
Total Credit Price	£21,240.00	

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Deposit	£4,120.00	
Monthly Repayments	£171.67 x 36	
Total Credit Price	£21,240.00	

RENAULT

Schools to fund places for bright girls



BY DAVID CHARTER
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE largest grouping of independent girls' schools yesterday launched a £70 million scholarship programme to replace their state-funded assisted places, which are being phased out by the Government.

Sue Lawley, the broadcaster, will take part in radio advertisements to publicise the 3,000 subsidised places available to low-income families at the 25 schools in the Girls Public Day School Trust.

Ms Lawley, whose daughter attends Putney High School in South

London, is among several celebrities helping the trust to set up its fund. Its patrons include Dame Stella Rimington, former director of MI5 and a former pupil of Nottingham High School, and Nicola Horlick, the merchant banker who attended Birkenhead High School.

The assisted places scheme, which covers 34,000 pupils, is to be phased out over the next seven years and the £140 million cost switched to keep class sizes to 30 or below in state infant school classes. This September's intake will be the last subsidised by the scheme.

As disclosed in *The Times* in May, the trust wants to ensure that the

fund can replace all the assisted places at its schools. They include South Hampstead High and Wimbledon High in London, and Ipswich, Oxford and Portsmouth High Schools. The trust has raised well over £10 million through donations from funds and former pupils.

Michael Oakley, its chief executive, said: "We could fill these places with fee-payers but the trust has always been committed to making its schools accessible to bright girls from families who otherwise could not afford it. We do not want schools which are only for the relatively wealthy."

The Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference of 250 leading

independent schools estimates its schools will replace around a third of its subsidised places.

Vivian Anthony, secretary of the conference, said: "The sad thing is that despite all the schemes, there will be children who will lose out. It is undeniable from the research we have done that those young people will do less well in the schools they are going to than if they had come to us."

Government-commissioned research showed last summer that pupils on assisted places at independent schools scored up to three A-level grades better than pupils of equal ability at state schools. The

study compared the 1995 A-level results of pupils on the scheme with those of 18-year-olds who qualified for a place but opted to take their A levels in the state sector.

□ The Girls Public Day School

Trust, which this year celebrates its 125th anniversary, is to drop the

word public from its title.

Mr Oakley said: "We do not want an exclusive image. The trust was founded to offer educational opportunities to all bright girls, whatever their backgrounds. The word public was used in 1872, as the schools were funded by public subscription, but it has since come to suggest exclusivity."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Body of son lost on fishing trip found

The body of a man missing since a Bank Holiday fishing trip has been washed up on a Merseyside beach.

Charles Brodie, 22, of Rossendale, Lancashire, and his father John were plunged into the Irish Sea when their boat capsized off the North Wales coast last month. The 43-year-old father spent more than 20 hours in the water using air-filled waders to help him to float before an RAF helicopter located him. The son's body was discovered near Southport yesterday.

Killer escapes

Raymond Jones, 38, serving life for killing his aunt, absconded from Leyhill open prison, Gloucestershire, three days after transferring from another jail. Three other killers have escaped from Leyhill in the past year.

Railway injury

A schoolboy is in hospital after suffering 30 degree burns from a 750-volt railway track near his home in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire. The nine-year-old is said by Booth Hall Children's Hospital in Manchester to be "poorly".

Rugby boy dies

A boy aged ten collapsed and died during a warm-up session before a weekend mini-rugby match. Scott Donkin, from Newcastle upon Tyne, had not been in physical contact with any other players, witnesses said.

Blenheim hunt

A team from Bristol Diving Club believes it has located a Bristol Blenheim bomber in the Atlantic off Ulster and hopes to salvage it. Only one of the Second World War planes, a rebuilt version, had been thought to exist.

Torn off a strip

Two Cleveland policemen have been reprimanded after being filmed licking chocolate from a stripper while on a training course. They are the first of 22 officers to be disciplined over the incident, during a course in Lancashire.



Women who impressed the sixth-form girls: clockwise from top left, Cherie Booth, Hillary Clinton, Nicola Horlick and Baroness Thatcher. But the girls felt that their own mothers were still the real superwomen.

Children 'are the experts on drugs'

PARENTS were urged yesterday to find out more about drugs and their effects. The call by Tessa Jowell, Public Health Minister, came as research showed that a third of parents think their children know more about drugs than they do.

At the launch of National Drugs Awareness Week, Ms Jowell encouraged parents to pick up a copy of a new free guide called *Drugs and Solvents — Know*

the Facts. She said: "As a parent, I know how difficult and worrying it can be to talk to our kids about drugs. One of the most important tools is information."

The booklet, published by the Health Education Authority and Boots the Chemist, is available from Boots stores until September 14. A survey commissioned by the chain shows that almost three quarters of parents agree they are

responsible for telling their children about the dangers of drugs.

However, more than a third believe that their children know more about illegal drugs than they do and 38 per cent feel helpless about protecting their children from them. Nearly 90 per cent are worried about their children using Ecstasy. The survey questioned parents of children aged from seven to 21.

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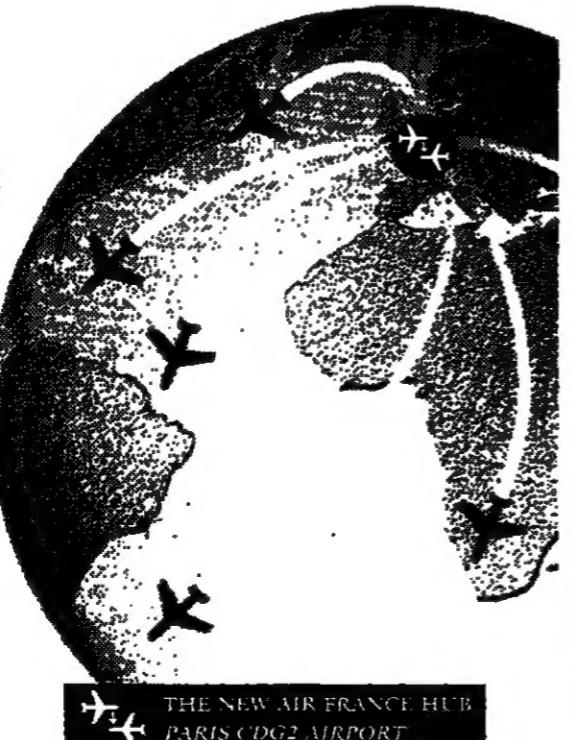
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How trying to keep cool can be a headache

MEDICAL BRIEFING

THE ice-cream so gratefully licked on a hot day will, within 20 seconds, induce a severe but short-lived headache in some unlucky people. This type of headache is equally brought on by sucking ice cubes, having an iced-cold drink, or by being splashed in the face while swimming in a cold sea.

A correspondence in the *British Medical Journal* about "ice-cream headache" stimulated an earlier editorial, revolved around the origins of the reflex which causes constriction in major arteries of the brain.

The reflex changes, which can reduce flow by a third, could be the result of an overreaction to a reflex responding to a drop in blood temperature affecting a nerve centre in the neck, or a response to a reflex triggered by a sensation of cold in the mouth, or above all the patient's palate.

Fortunately, the *BMJ* correspondence has coincided with Migraine Awareness Week. Although the nature of ice-cream headache and migraine is very different, both are the result of changes in cranial circulation. Dr Clifford Rose, chairman of the Migraine Trust and the founder director of the Princess Margaret Migraine Clinic at the Charing Cross Hospital, London, said that

two new SHTI receptor agonist drugs have been introduced to treat migraine attacks over the past year, another two were just about to be launched, and Imitram (sumatriptan), which had set the gold standard of anti-migraine therapy, was now available in a form which could be sniffed, acting four times faster than a tablet.

Imitram, and the new drugs Naramig (naratriptan), are made by Glaxo Wellcome and have been joined on the chemists' shelves by Zolmitriptan (zolmitriptan). All are SHTI agonists and both Naramig and Zolmitriptan are effective in smaller doses than Imitram.

If migraine occurs more than twice a month, or if the visual disturbances, photophobia, throbbing headaches, nausea, vomiting and shivering which characterise migraine are not eased by modern drugs, patients should take prophylactic treatment, often a beta-blocker tablet daily.

Whether the changes in a headache sufferer's brain circulation are the result of migraine or ice-cream, medical research has resolved their mechanism and this has resulted in better methods of avoidance or treatment.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

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THE upland farm land and Wales, along the border between England and Scotland, is a rural area with a rich history. The area is known for its rolling hills, lush green fields, and traditional thatched cottages. The people here are known for their hard work and resilience, and their deep connection to the land. The area is also home to a variety of wildlife, including red deer, roe deer, and badgers. The local economy is based on agriculture, tourism, and small businesses. The area is also known for its beautiful landscapes, with rolling hills and winding rivers. The people here are known for their hard work and resilience, and their deep connection to the land. The area is also home to a variety of wildlife, including red deer, roe deer, and badgers. The local economy is based on agriculture, tourism, and small businesses. The area is also known for its beautiful landscapes, with rolling hills and winding rivers. 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Whales gather for feast at the men-only diner

BELUGA whales travel thousands of miles to meet at a "men-only restaurant" beneath the Arctic pack-ice, scientists have discovered. They feast on rich stocks of cod and halibut after navigating by the stars or the Earth's magnetic field.

The discovery has overturned accepted knowledge of whales. Dr Tony Martin, of the Sea Mammal Research Unit at St Andrews University, said yesterday: "The Eskimos who hunt belugas saw our findings and said they were rubbish at first."

Until now it was believed that the beluga, a white-

**BRITISH
ASSOCIATION**

Reports by
Nigel Hawkes
and Nick Nuttall

coloured whale with males up to five metres long, never strayed from the shore and estuaries of the high Arctic. But Dr Martin said their findings showed they could dive to great depths, going on journeys of thousands of miles.

The belugas also appear to

have a detection system that can locate air holes in the pack-ice, allowing them to make their incredible journeys. The findings, disclosed at the annual meeting in Leeds of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, have been made possible by satellite tracking.

The British and Canadian scientists tagged the belugas in the Mackenzie Delta, on the Canadian side of Alaska. The whales then spend a few weeks moulting in estuaries in late June and July before heading to the feeding grounds.

The moulting period in shallow waters is when the whales are at the mercy of hunters. Dr Martin showed a picture of 20,000 skulls of beluga whales killed by British whalers in the last century. One big whaler from Dundee simply put a net across a bay and shot the animals.

The females and the males split by Banks Island. The big males travel up via McClure Strait to the "restaurant", a deep trench at a site called Viscount Melville Sound. The females go to a more shallow feeding ground, the scientists have found, taking young males and females with them.

The researchers believe the different sites reflect their abilities. The males appear able to stay down for up to 21 minutes whereas the smaller females can only stay down for up to 16 minutes.

Dr Martin, whose work is funded by the Natural Environment Research Council, said this allowed the males to make the hazardous journey to the 550-metre trench, where cod is available in "unbelievable quantities". The "restaurant" is open for August, after which the males head westwards under the ice, eventually emerging through the Bering Strait.

Toothed whales, such as beluga, have echo location systems like bats, but the researchers suspect that they dive and listen for a "sound signature" of water moving around air holes in the ice.

Official estimates are that there are 18 races of belugas in the Arctic, totalling between 40,000 and 80,000 animals. But Dr Martin said: "I now suspect that the population may be much larger, in excess of 200,000."



Beckett criticised lack of research by industry

a tangle of reasons this potential has not blossomed as it should," she said. A renewed effort should be made to ensure better career patterns for contract researchers, not only in universities but also in institutes and laboratories.

Braine had a strong science base of which we should all be proud, she said, but as a society we often lacked scientific knowledge. "But what is worse and what lies behind that lack of knowledge is a widespread failure of imagination and understanding about the relevance, the value, and the sheer excitement of scientific endeavour in all its many forms," she said. The challenge was to improve public understanding of science, and to inspire young people to be interested in it.

She was also critical of the slow progress made in trying to improve the career pattern of young researchers. "Many of these highly talented and committed young people have a vast amount to offer but for

the industry which, she said, was not paying enough attention to research and development, or putting sufficient resources into it, and for the fate of many researchers forced to work on short-term contracts. "Only those companies and countries that have high levels of investment in skills and technologies complemented by high levels of management interest and attention, will succeed," she said.

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Yorkshire tittle-tattle 'inspired Jane Eyre'

By PAUL WILKINSON



Charlotte Brontë would have heard local gossip

A VICTORIAN love affair involving a teacher called Jane Eyre could have been the inspiration for the suppressed passion between Charlotte Brontë's fictional character and Mr Rochester in her classic novel.

Claims by Margaret Connor, an amateur historian, to have discovered the liaison are being taken seriously by the Brontë Society, which has published details of her work in its journal.

Miss Connor says the actual romance between Frances Jane Eyre and an eminent surgeon living not far from the Brontës' home at Haworth parsonage in west Yorkshire would have been hot gossip for the local chattering classes in the mid-1840s. *Jane Eyre* was published in 1847.

Miss Connor, a retired teacher, has spent two years researching how the tale found its way to the Brontë household through a grapevine of weekly prayer meetings, embroidery circles and dances.

The love life of Frances Jane Eyre, a member of the Moravian church in Fulneck, Leeds, bears a similarity to that of the literary heroine. In the novel the governess's love for the father of her pupil remains unfulfilled until almost the

end because of his dark secret: an insane wife kept locked in a remote wing of Thornfield Hall.

The Jane Eyre of Fulneck had her hopes of marrying a Pudsey surgeon named Machell thwarted at first because she apparently refused to sacrifice her career as a teacher in a church school. At that time such teachers were required to remain spinsters.

She first appears in church records in 1842, when as a woman in her twenties, she seeks membership. The following year she joined the Moravian Single Sister group and an entry in the elders' journal records that "Single Sister Fanny Jane Eyre has formed a connexion with a Mr Machell, a surgeon of Pudsey."

Yesterday she said: "It seems that Mary Liley's journal provides a very probable link between the Fulneck Jane Eyre and Charlotte Brontë." The Brontë Society is to study the research.

Upland farms go downhill

By RUSSELL JENKINS

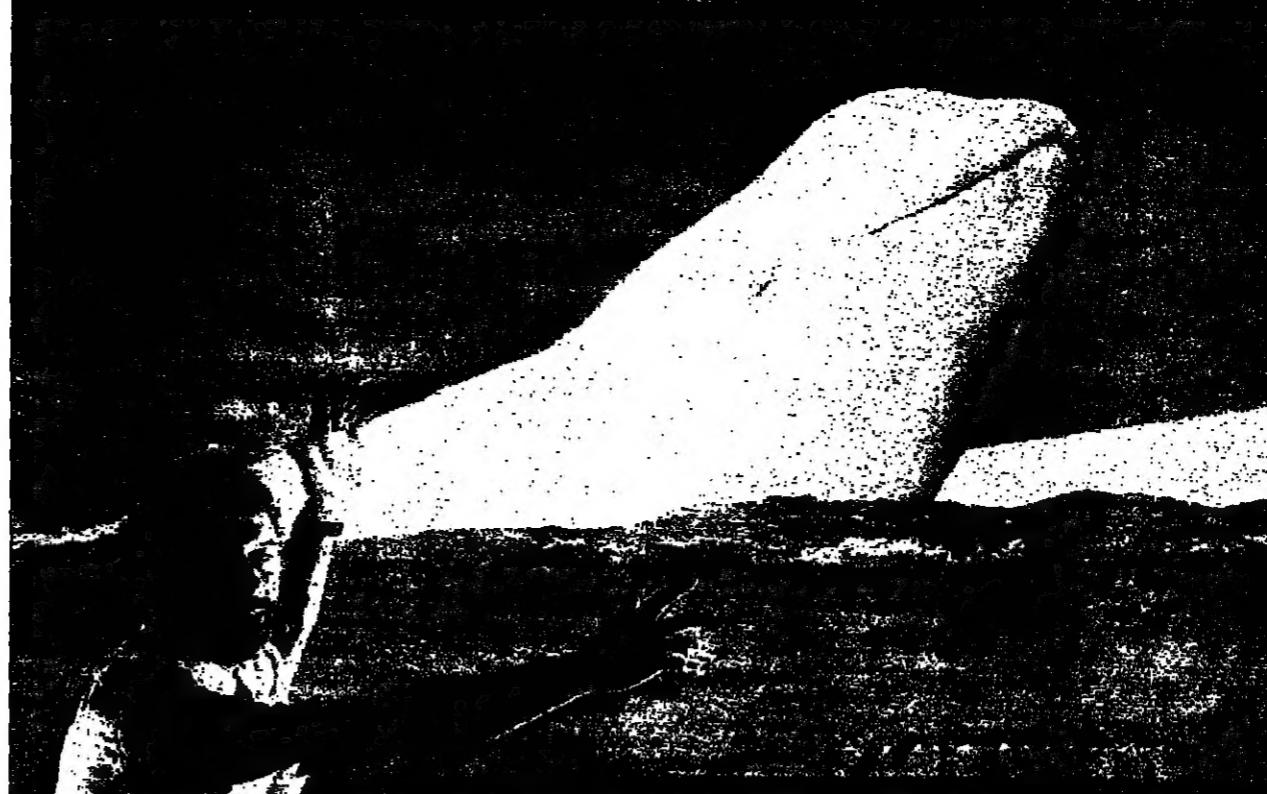
THE upland farms of England and Wales are facing a bleak future as the next generation deserts them, the National Farmers Union warned yesterday.

A survey conducted by the union found that 43 per cent of hill farmers with children said their sons and daughters had decided not to take over the farm. Three-quarters blamed low incomes.

The exodus places the long-term future of traditional farm-

lands in England and Wales in jeopardy and poses a threat to rural life. The worst-affected areas are parts of England designated as Less Favoured Areas, such as North Yorkshire, Cumbria, the Pennines, Bodmin Moor, Exmoor and Dartmoor and the bulk of Wales.

Sir David Naish, the president of the union, said: "The survey results are particularly worrying as the hills and uplands have been farmed by the same families over the generations. With no natural



Tony Martin with a projection of a beluga whale. His findings were originally dismissed by Eskimos

When buses went down wrong road

ONE-MAN buses illustrate the folly of narrow-minded decision-making, according to the president of the association.

Sir Derek Roberts, Provost of University College London, said: "Somebody looked at the cost of the bus service and said, 'We could halve the wage bill if we didn't have conductors.' So they did it and made a very marginal saving. But had they looked at the economy as a whole, they would have seen

that it made no sense.

"We are paying a vast amount to offset that saving. Apart from the impact on the quality of the service, the buses sit there emitting pollution and holding up a queue of traffic which does the same.

Women are reluctant to travel on buses late at night because of the fear of threatening behaviour, and so on."

Had the decision been made in a more rational way, society would have been the richer, said Sir Derek, who was making a plea for the "systems approach" used by engineers to be applied more widely.

A second example was a drug made by the Japanese company Eisai that could slow the progress of Alzheimer's disease. It was expensive but brought improved quality of life to patients, enabled carers to go back to full-time work, spared the state the cost of social security payments and meant that the newly re-employed carers paid tax.

Isopods — creatures rather like wood lice — reach lengths of 17cm against 3cm in temperate seas. Sea spiders up to 33cm from leg tip to leg tip have been discovered. They are a thousand times bigger than European sea spiders.

Monsters of the deep thrive in ice

MONSTROUS creatures, including giant sea spiders and worms, have been discovered on the Antarctic seabed.

Dr Lloyd Peck, of the British Antarctic Survey, said yesterday that the low temperatures led to very low metabolic rates among marine creatures, allowing them to grow to bigger sizes and live longer than comparable creatures in warmer waters.

Isopods — creatures rather like wood lice — reach lengths of 17cm against 3cm in temperate seas. Sea spiders up to 33cm from leg tip to leg tip have been discovered. They are a thousand times bigger than European sea spiders.

Dr Peck said that other

oddities included a 10ft tall sponge, big enough for divers to climb inside, and nemertines or ribbon worms that can grow to three metres and are as thick as your thumb.

The seabed world has emerged from studies of icebergs. When a big one grounds on the seabed it can obliterate marine communities. Smaller ones swirling around in the sea also kill off seabed life.

Dr Peck said that the survey had found that the diversity of Antarctic marine life forms rivalled the Tropics. That was partly due to the clearing out by icebergs and partly to the isolation of the continent from the rest of the world for some 35 million years.

Public is turned off by green confusion

THE public is confused and increasingly cynical about claims made by environmental experts.

Although most people would like to lead a greener life, they are not sure how to do it and doubtful that it would make any difference. The messages from government, the media and environmental groups are too complex, too confusing and change too often for them to know how best to respond.

Jacquelin Burgess, of the Department of Geography at University College London, who has carried out a study in Britain and The Netherlands, found that the Dutch were greener than the British and more likely to trust what they were told.

The research, carried out from 1993 to 1995 in Nottingham and Eindhoven, found anxieties about the environment had been displaced by worries about crime and unemployment.

As one Nottingham woman put it: "You have enough pressures in your own life — with your own problems — without taking on the world's all of the time." Dr Burgess says that the Nottingham groups conveyed "a sense of overwhelming resignation".

Dutch households in a six-month programme organised by an international charity ended up using 16 per cent less electricity, 10 per cent less water, driving 18 per cent fewer miles and generating 27 per cent less household waste. A similar programme will go ahead in Britain in the next year.

Evidence linking tiny particles of metals in vehicle exhausts to increased heart attacks in heavy pollution was "beginning to look very solid", a government air adviser said.

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You have nothing to fear from home rule, Blair tells Scotland

Nicholas Watt
on the Prime Minister's return to the devolution campaign

TONY BLAIR staked his authority yesterday on winning a double "yes" vote in Thursday's devolution referendum when he told the people of Scotland that they had nothing to fear from a parliament with tax-varying powers.

During a whistle-stop campaign tour of Edinburgh and Glasgow, the Prime Minister told hundreds of supporters that they should have the self-confidence to vote for historic constitutional reform.

Evoking the memory of Franklin Roosevelt, Mr Blair told an audience in Edinburgh: "There is nothing to be afraid of except fear itself... so have courage and be of good faith."

His remarks came after opinion polls showed that support for the proposed tax-varying powers for a Scottish parliament has fallen below 50 per cent. An opinion poll for *Scotland on Sunday* found that Scots plan to vote overwhelmingly in favour of a parliament, but only 45 per cent said they wanted it to have the power to increase or decrease the basic rate of income tax by up to 3p in the pound.

During an hour-long question-and-answer session at a school in Edinburgh, Mr Blair faced hostile questions about the tax-varying powers. Flanked by Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, the Prime Minister acknowledged that there was "less support" for the tax plans and said he

understood that people were nervous.

But in a rallying cry to the Scots, he added: "What I would say to you, to the business community, to the people of Scotland, is trust us and trust yourselves." To strong applause Mr Blair went on: "The idea that this is a power with which the Scottish people cannot be trusted I just find wrong, absurd."

Mr Blair's plea for a double "yes" vote came after the Tories stepped up their opposition. Peter Lilley, the Shadow Chancellor, entered the campaign to ask Labour how it would pay for the improvements in public services promised by ministers.

Writing in *The Scotsman*, Mr Lilley said: "Cash would need to come from one of two sources. It could be diverted from other spending areas on rob-Peter-to-pay-Paul principle or it could come through higher taxes."

The Prime Minister, who

took off his jacket for the question-and-answer session at Trinity Academy school in Edinburgh, dismissed the Tory claims as "the usual Conservative scare" and reiterated his promise not to raise income tax in the lifetime of the present Westminster Parliament. Reassuring his audience that a Scot — Gordon Brown — was Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Blair told the selected audience: "I say to you in all sincerity that there is nothing to be frightened of in this change. It is a good change. It is the right change for the times in which we live. It will be good not just for the people of Scotland but for business too."

In a series of interviews, Mr Blair said that the Government's constitutional reforms in Scotland and throughout Britain were designed to prepare for the challenges of the next century. "This is all part of modernising the constitution of Britain to bring power closer to the people, to make sure that the people of Scotland can take the types of decision which affect people in Scotland."

The Prime Minister, accompanied by his wife, Cherie, relished his return to the campaign trail four months after the general election. He cracked jokes with his audience and teased Mr Dewar throughout the day. When the 60-year-old Scottish Secretary sat next to a child on a mat in a school gymnasium Mr Blair

held up both hands and said: "Is he going to be able to get up again?" Mr Dewar promptly stood up, only to sit down again to resume his conversation with the perplexed pupil.

In the centre of Glasgow and Edinburgh Mr Blair received a rapturous welcome

from crowds of people who thronged round his motorcade. In Glasgow he signed scores of autographs.

At his first engagement of the day, at Killermont Primary School in Bearsden, north Glasgow, a group of parents congratulated him on his role last week in responding to

public criticism of the Royal Family after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. Mr Blair told the parents: "It was very difficult for all of us... I cannot remember anything like it in my lifetime."

Peter Riddell, page 18
Letters, page 19



Street party: Tony Blair and his wife, Cherie, campaigning in Edinburgh yesterday

Strange alliance seems on high road to success

BY MAGNUS LINKLATER

ALONG the A9 from Inverness to Edinburgh, there is unmistakable evidence of a referendum campaign leaping into life: planted along the verges at regular intervals are neat little plastic signs proclaiming the slogan YES-YES. They are fluorescent yellow, the party colour of the Scottish nationalists, and in the bottom right-hand corner is the familiar thistle logo of the SNP.

So what is this? A none-too-subtle attempt to plug the party line under the guise of a "yes" campaign? "Not at all," protested an SNP spokesman. "It's simply part of the SNP's 'yes' campaign." The distinction may well be lost on the average Scottish voter, but that is part of the price the Government has had to pay for getting the formidable nationalist machine on side.

Much of the momentum that has built up over the past 24 hours has been thanks to the party that has been Labour's sworn enemy for the best part of a generation. Thanks to Sean Connery, the man chosen to launch the "yes" campaign on Sunday alongside the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, it got off to a famous start. Mr Connery, of course, is the SNP's most celebrated supporter. They familiar gruff tones, announcing his intention to vote "yes-yes", failed to add that his party's ultimate aim is an independent Scotland.

For the time being, however, those differences have been sunk. The SNP's leader, Alex Salmond, said yesterday that the party was arguing for "a parliament that reflects all of Scotland", and if the polls are anything to go by that is what he will get. The great unanswered question is how the "no" campaign continues to play the tax card and claims that it is eroding support on the second question, on tax-varying powers. But there is evidence that the tax issue may be a diminishing asset. It was, after all, used during the Tories' election campaign to spectacularly little effect: the party lost every seat. It is hard to see how this time around, despite the dark warnings of bankers and businessmen, it can turn the tide that is still running strongly in favour of a double "yes" vote.

The "no" campaign continues to play the tax card and claims that it is eroding support on the second question, on tax-varying powers. But there is evidence that the tax issue may be a diminishing asset. It was, after all, used during the Tories' election campaign to spectacularly little effect: the party lost every seat. It is hard to see how this time around, despite the dark warnings of bankers and businessmen, it can turn the tide that is still running strongly in favour of a double "yes" vote.

Hague warns Welsh against 'costly error'

Labour has a fight on its hands, reports Philip Webster



Welsh Office has tried to mount a cosmetic exercise, pretending that an assembly would be able to dismantle the quangos. The point is a false one. To dismantle the major quangos in Wales needs primary legislation. An assembly would not have the power to do so. The Tory quango state would live on side by side with a Welsh assembly.

Mr Hague, who travels to Scotland today to call for a "no-no" vote, said that Wales would get the worst of both worlds, a loss of influence in the United Kingdom and no real power over its affairs. It is a recipe for conflict and division. Every dispute, every broken promise would be used by the nationalists to undermine the United Kingdom and divide the Welsh people.

The Tories are determined to raise their profile in the run-up to the conference season. Mr Hague's travels over the next three weeks were described yesterday as "the most comprehensive single tour ever undertaken by a Tory leader". He hopes to meet thousands of voters.

Archie Norman, the Tory party vice-chairman, has provided Mr Hague with his "green paper" on party reforms. On the tour Mr Hague will seek support for the plans, telling activists that "no change is not an option".

THE SCOTTISH DEVOLUTION CAMPAIGN – WHERE DO THE PARTIES STAND?

YES YES CAMP



LABOUR

Tony Blair believes that a parliament with tax-varying powers would answer the demand for home rule while strengthening Scotland's position within the United Kingdom. Insists that limited powers to vary taxes will give the body credibility. Some observers believe Labour leadership is concerned about a "tartan tax" and is hoping privately that electorate will vote for parliament, but reject tax powers. Labour has pledged not to raise taxes in lifetime of present Westminster Parliament. Scottish parliament marks first stage of campaign to "clean up" British politics which includes referendum on Welsh assembly and mayor of London.

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

Scottish parliament will "blaze a trail" for constitutional and electoral reform within the UK. Lib Dem MSPs (Members of the Scottish Parliament) likely to clash with Labour soon after the parliament is established because Paddy Ashdown wants the body to introduce PR to local government elections in Scotland. Wants to root out Labour's "unrepresentative cliques". Many Lib Dems will also press for higher taxes to pay for increased spending on health and education. Ashdown says Lib Dems have most consistent position on home rule because Liberals have been fighting for a Scottish parliament for more than 100 years.

SCOTTISH NATIONALISTS

Regards the parliament as first step on the road to an independent Scotland. Joined "yes" campaign late because party was initially opposed. Signed up because party believes there will be no "glass ceiling" and Scottish people will have the right to vote for independence at a later date. SNP says: "Half a loaf is better than none." Unhappy that Westminster will retain responsibility over areas such as foreign affairs.

TIMING

THURSDAY: Voting takes place. A simple majority will be enough to establish the parliament.

LATE 1997: Legislation to set up the parliament to be introduced at Westminster

1999: Elections to the 129-member parliament to be held in first half of year. Voters in Scotland's 72 parliamentary constituencies will elect one MSPs under first-past-the-post system, apart from Orkney and Shetland, which will be split into two. Electors will cast second vote for party to elect additional 56 members, seven from each of the eight European parliamentary constituencies

2000: First sitting for a four-year fixed term. Scottish executive, including a First Minister and a team of Scottish ministers, will be appointed from new parliament.

VOTERS WILL BE ASKED TO RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- I agree that there should be a Scottish parliament
- I do not agree that there should be a Scottish parliament.
- I agree that a Scottish parliament should have tax-varying powers
- I do not agree that a Scottish parliament should have tax-varying powers

VOTERS CAN GIVE ONE OF FOUR RESPONSES:

- YES YES = endorsement of Scottish parliament with tax-varying powers
- YES NO = endorsement of parliament but rejection of tax-varying powers
- NO NO = rejection of both parliament and tax-varying powers
- NO YES = rejection of parliament but acceptance of tax-varying powers

Few people are expected to register such a complicated vote

NO NO CAMP

CONSERVATIVES AND THINK TWICE CAMPAIGN

The Conservatives and Think Twice campaign reject the parliament because, they say, it will lead to the break-up of the United Kingdom. Body will create a "cesspool of resentment" between English and Scots. Tax-varying powers will make the average taxpayer £300 a year worse off and will make Scottish businesses less competitive. The parliament will undermine Scotland's funding arrangements, known as the "Barnett formula", which ensures that the Government spends more per capita north of the border. Labour-controlled central belt area - between Glasgow and Edinburgh - will dominate new body

EXTREMIST NATIONALISTS
Campaign for Genuine Self-Determination urging supporters to boycott the "rigid" referendum because claims that a "yes" vote will create a "puppet parliament". The campaigners, who are sponsored by the Communist Party of Great Britain (CPGB), want a republic in Scotland. They are calling on people to demonstrate and to hold strikes to demand a parliament with real powers to introduce socialist policies. They claim that proposed tax-varying powers will hit lowest paid and not big businesses. The CPGB has fewer than 1,000 members in Scotland.

Mr Hague was boosted by an open display of dissent over devolution by two senior Labour MPs. Sir Ray Powell (Ogmore) and Denzil Davies (Llanelli) broke ranks to voice concern that a Welsh assembly would fail to dismantle the quango system left by the Tory government.

Their outspoken comments — including Sir Ray's pledge to vote "no" on September 18 — took some of the shine off Labour's campaign, re-launched after the period of mourning last week for Diana, Princess of Wales.

But Ron Davies, the Welsh Secretary, insisted that he was confident that Wales would

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Welsh error

Martin Webb

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DELL

Fresh setback for Mir as computer suffers third crash

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S troubled Mir space station suffered a fresh setback yesterday when its computer crashed, forcing the crew to shut down all but the life support systems.

In the most serious mishap since a fresh crew arrived last month and began vital repairs to the spacecraft, mission control in Moscow reported that the ageing computer had been "playing up again".

Although Russian space officials insisted that the incident, the third of its kind in three months, was routine and that the crew was not at any risk, the problem is considered serious and could take days to repair.

Mir's computer was unplugged by mistake in July and then crashed last month after a faulty part malfunctioned during a docking procedure. On all three occasions, the crew was forced to shut down non-essential systems in order to conserve power,

throwing the orbiter off course. The systems that were closed down yesterday included the Elektron oxygen-generating system and the gyrodes, the devices used to position Mir's solar panels towards the Sun.

Although on the past two occasions the spacecraft was sent spinning out of control and lost its orientation, this time the Russians claimed that Mir was relatively stable and that its solar panels were still generating power.

The systems are all in order and as soon as the computer is repaired they can go back into operation immediately," said Vladimir Solovyov, the mission control director.

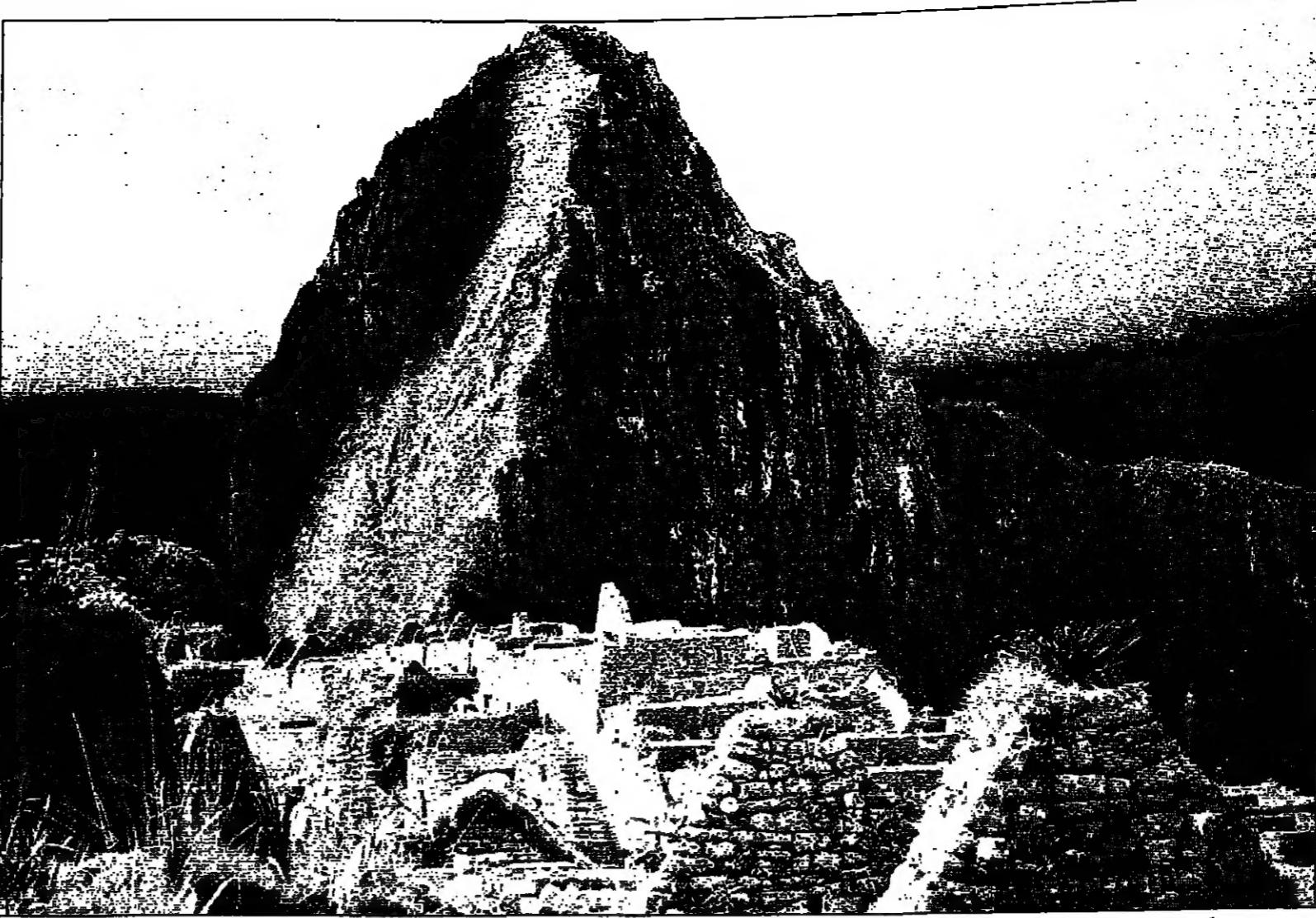
He added that the failure had been caused by a defect in one of the computer's units and by one of the programmes, which the crew would replace. "The computer contains 10,000 units, so one is

bound to go wrong sooner or later," he said.

Despite his relaxed attitude, the incident does raise some troubling questions for Mir, which the Russians want to keep operational until 1999, but which faces a difficult future if the computer crashes with such regularity.

Nasa seems determined to continue its partnership with the Russian space programme. A spokeswoman for the American agency said yesterday that, despite the latest setback, David Wolf is scheduled to replace Michael Foale, the British-born Nasa astronaut on Mir at the end of this month, when the Atlantis shuttle is due to dock with the Russian orbiter.

After his recent spacewalk to carry out repairs, Mr Foale telephoned his parents in Britain to tell them about the experience. The ten-minute link to Cambridge was made through a radio ham in Texas.



The Lost City of Machu Picchu in the Andes. Concern is high after a brush fire spread up the steep mountainsides on Sunday

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Troops halt huge blaze on fringes of Incas' Lost City

BY GABRIELLA GAMINI, SOUTH AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

PERUVIAN officials are urgently trying to assess the extent of damage to Machu Picchu, the Lost City of the Incas, after a huge brush fire spread up the steep mountain sides of the ancient complex of temples and palaces.

The fire was put out successfully but there are fears that it could reignite in the dry and windy conditions in the Andes. More than 350 members of the army and police fought the flames that spread across lush vegetation towards the 8,855ft high peak on which the citadel is perched.

Homero Nurena, Peru's civil defence chief, said: "We are now assessing the damage caused to the ancient ruins. The fire came within metres of the Inca city and there has to be an archaeological investigation to see what was destroyed." He added: "We remain on alert as there are still fears that the fire could restart."

The severe drought conditions are being blamed for the fire which is believed to have started naturally. The blaze engulfed 99 acres of low shrubs on Sunday before it was extinguished yesterday morning.

The flames were put out using water from the two rivers, the Urubamba and

Aobamba, which flow through lush valleys 2,300ft below Machu Picchu. "It was lucky that we had a water supply to douse the flames," Señor Nurena said. "Other Inca ruins are in remote and high-altitude Andean areas where water is sparse."

The Lost City of Machu Picchu, one of Latin America's most famous tourist attractions, was proclaimed a World Heritage Site by the United Nations. It receives about 1,000 visitors a day during the dry season which begins in June and ends in December.

The ruins were discovered under thick jungle vegetation by Hiram Bingham, an American archaeologist, on July 24, 1911. Between 1912 and 1915 he brought in a team to clear the overgrown vegetation and discovered a maze of complex structures that continues to provide an invaluable source of knowledge about the Incas' advanced engineering skills.

Archaeologists say the exceptionally high quality of stonework and the abundance of ornamental, rather than practical, structures suggest that the citadel was an important ceremonial site for the warrior tribe. Although it stands on such high ground, it is very difficult to see from the surrounding valleys.

Caribbean states hit by banana trade feud

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

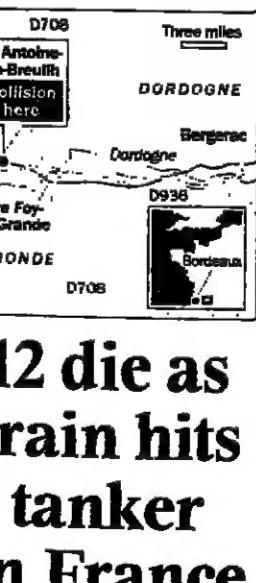
THE European Union is struggling to find a way of shoring up the economies of the Windward Islands and other Caribbean banana-growing states after the World Trade Organisation upheld American complaints that Europe gave them unfair access to its market.

The decision by a WTO appeal panel, to be confirmed this month, has brought to a climax the US-EU feud over a protected banana trade that is the lifeblood of former British colonies such as St Lucia, St Vincent, Dominica and Grenada.

The United States Government, under pressure from big American-owned export companies, challenged the EU "banana regime" which grants special import quotas and tariffs to fruit from certain nations in the Caribbean and Africa, mostly former British and French colonies.

The small states, which depend on banana exports for up to 70 per cent of their income, say they cannot compete with the low-cost Latin American product mainly exported by American companies. The Caribbean accounts for 15 per cent of the EU banana market, and the industry brings in more than £200 million a year to the region.

Eastern Caribbean leaders have told President Clinton that their economies face collapse if their European market is cut off, which could endanger democracy and increase the drug trade.



12 die as train hits tanker in France

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

AT LEAST 12 people were killed and more than 30 injured yesterday when a passenger train hurtled into a petrol tanker on a railway crossing in southwest France.

The express train, travelling from Bordeaux to Bergerac in the Dordogne, struck the tanker, carrying 30,000 litres of fuel, just before noon near the village of Saint-Antoine-de-Breuilh. The vehicle burst into flames and the train's engine and first carriage were destroyed by fire, which spread rapidly to nearby buildings.

Ten fire engines and 160 firefighters fought the blaze as 23 ambulances and two helicopters ferried victims to hospitals at Bordeaux and Limoges.

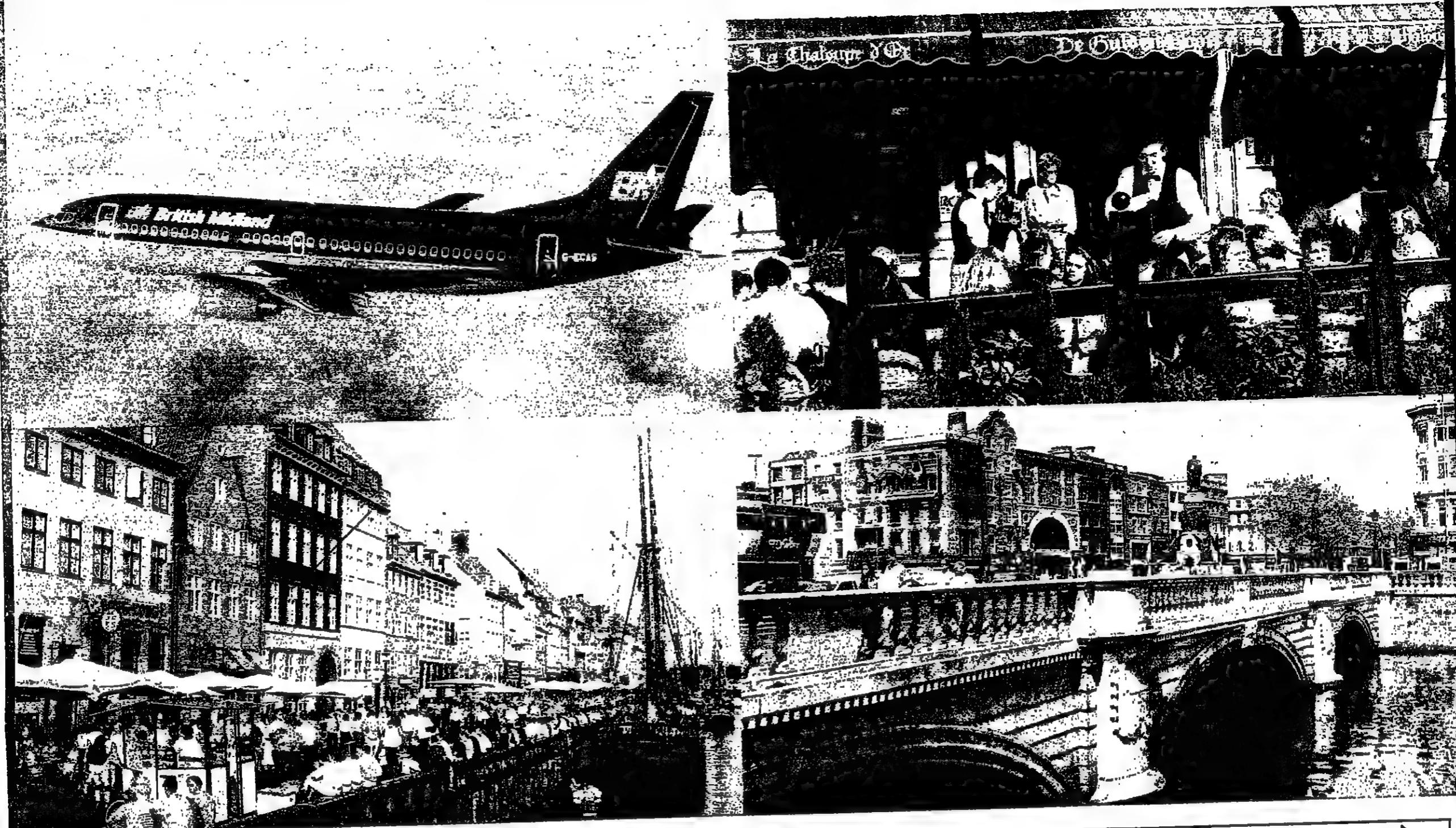
Police said the tanker had bypassed barriers to cross onto the track. The train driver was killed instantly. The tanker driver was critically injured. Officials said some bodies were so badly burnt that immediate identification was impossible. Four people were in a serious condition last night.

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THE TIMES

Republicans home in on Gore as claims of Chinese plot misfire

PRESSURE is mounting on Vice-President Al Gore to testify before the Senate committee investigating campaign finance. Two prominent Republicans on the committee are calling this week for Mr Gore to provide more evidence about his attendance at a fundraising event at a Buddhist temple.

But the new focus on Mr Gore is a powerful sign of what Republicans admit in private the three-month Senate investigation is falling far short of their hopes. Fred Thompson, the committee's Republican chairman, has failed to sustain his opening declaration that he knew of a Chinese plot to influence the White House. This weekend, as members of Congress

A former actor turned senator has not been able to produce evidence backing his allegations that the White House solicited illegal campaign funds. Bronwen Maddox writes from Washington

tussled over the autumn agenda, it became clear that campaign finance reform will not be achieved this year.

Arlen Specter and Don Nickles, both Republican senators on the committee, have called on Mr Gore this week to "speak out" on whether he knew the 1996 gathering at the temple was a Democratic fundraising event. Republicans

have seized on disclosures that Mr Gore had a greater part in fund-raising than he previously admitted as their best chance of damaging his bid for the White House in 2000. But in the process the governmental affairs committee has wheeled away from its original, more controversial target — proving that the Democratic National Committee or the White

House knowingly solicited illegal foreign contributions, particularly from China.

When the hearings began in July Mr Thompson, a former actor, used all his Hollywood instincts to steal the show by claiming that the committee had "uncovered a significant amount of documentary and other relevant information" about a "plan hatched during the last election cycle by the Chinese Government and designed to pour illegal money into American political campaigns".

On August 1, after three weeks of hearings, Mr Thompson was forced to concede, according to reports, that "we do not know to

what extent" China tried to influence the elections, and that there had been "some confusion in terms of what was said and what was intended" by his claim.

Mr Thompson's mistakes in chairing the committee are spelled out this week in a ferocious, detailed attack by the *New Republic*, a left-leaning but Clinton-bashing political weekly.

Under the heading "Thompson blew it", the magazine accuses Mr Thompson of blundering badly in his choice of witnesses. Rather than turning to experts on China, he relied on Thomas Hampson, head of a small private investigation firm in Illinois, to paint a portrait of Lippo Group, a con-

glomerate registered in Indonesia, as essentially Chinese in its activities and management. That was a task Mr Hampson largely fluffed.

Despite his Hollywood credentials, Mr Thompson has been blamed for failing to inject drama into the televised hearings. He "had been billed as a slow-speaking, somewhat stumbling country lawyer on the surface but underneath a savvy and determined advocate", the *New Republic* argues. In reality, despite "moments of acuity ... his line of thought often appeared obscure".

Nor, it appears this week is the committee's second stated aim of campaign finance reform likely to be achieved. The issue was strik-

ingly absent from a list of 41 themes drawn up by Republican leaders in the House of Representatives to be tackled this autumn. The Bill put forward by John McCain, a Republican senator, and Russell Feingold, a Democrat, now appears a non-starter, senators say in private.

□ Little Rock: The two main lawyers for Paula Jones in her sexual harassment suit against President Clinton asked a court to let them withdraw from the case, citing "fundamental differences" with her. They said that they could no longer represent Mrs Jones, who filed a \$700,000 (£435,000) lawsuit against Mr Clinton three years ago. (AP)

WORLD SUMMARY

Wartime stress 'led to killing'

Los Angeles: A former prisoner-of-war went on trial yesterday for the murder of his British son-in-law, claiming to have "snapped" because of traumatic wartime memories. (Giles Whitell writes).

Lawyers for Richard Keech, 77, are to argue that when he shot dead Nicholas Candy, 47, last year he was in the grip of post-traumatic stress disorder caused by beatings in Japanese prison camps.

Mr Candy, from south London, was in the midst of a bitter child custody battle with Mr Keech's daughter when he visited the Keech home to pick up his two-year-old son and was shot after an argument.

North Sea air crash

Oslo: An 18-seat French-built Super Puma AS332 helicopter crashed into the North Sea off Norway with the feared loss of the ten passengers and two crew on board. Wreckage and an empty life raft were found, and several bodies recovered, but there were no immediate reports of survivors. The aircraft had been on its way from Brønnøysund, about 450 miles north of Oslo, to an oil production ship 150 miles offshore in the Nornen field. (AP)

Mayor guilty of race hatred

Paris: Catherine Mégré, the far-right National Front Mayor of Vitrolles in southern France, was given a three-month suspended prison sentence yesterday for promoting racial hatred (Ben Macintyre writes). She was fined Fr50,000 (£5,000) but the court stopped short of the demand that she be declared ineligible for public office. She had said immigrants were only in France "to take money".

Officials deny Abacha is ill

Lagos: Officials in Abuja, the Nigerian capital, denied a report in *Tell*, an opposition magazine, claiming that General Sani Abacha, 53, the country's military ruler, is "very sick" with cirrhosis of the liver. "We deny that this story is correct. I do not know where they got their information from," one official at the presidency said. (AFP)

Cyprus court fines soldiers

Nicosia: Three Royal Signals Regiment soldiers were fined £200 each by a Cyprus court for indecent behaviour and causing malicious damage while off-duty from training, the Army said. They were caught naked at a public pool in the Ayia Napa resort on Sunday morning. (Reuters)

Mother Teresa to be buried in house of prayer

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN CALCUTTA

Fears of 400 dead in Haiti ferry sinking

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

UP TO 400 people were feared drowned yesterday after an overloaded ferry sank off Haiti.

Local radio stations reported that about 60 people managed to reach the shore, but the majority of passengers on the *Ferry Gonavienne*, a 60ft wooden sailing vessel, were missing. Within a few hours of the ship sinking, at least 25 bodies had been washed ashore.

US Coast Guard vessels, which patrol the Windward Passage between Haiti and Cuba, were sent to search for survivors.

The Haitian Coast Guard has three boats on the scene and they are reporting about 300 to 400 dead." Petty Officer Scott Carr said at US Coast Guard headquarters in Miami. "We are not sure if it capsized or sank."

The US Coast Guard sent a helicopter to help the search. Two more helicopters from a United Nations peace mission in Haiti were also assisting.

The ferry sank at dawn between the small port of Montrouis, about 50 miles north of Port-au-Prince, the capital, and the island of Gonave, which lies a few miles off the coast.

Local ferries, which carry to Gonave and charcoal to the mainland, are often overloaded. Despite numerous tragedies in the past, Haitian ferry traffic is almost wholly unregulated.

The *Ferry Gonavienne* had an estimated capacity of about 300 passengers, but witnesses said she left port with up to 800.

In February 1993, more than 1,000 people died when the ferry, *Neptune*, sank on a regular trip between the capital and the port of Jérémie. At the time, the Haitian junta failed to respond to the disaster, setting off a political outcry which fuelled hatred of the military regime.

Last year Haiti's new civilian Government created the country's first Coast Guard, which has been undergoing training under American supervision. But it has only three or four 25ft vessels and remains incapable of dealing with a disaster of this magnitude.



An altar boy and a nun keep vigil inside the church where Mother Teresa's body is lying in state

Martial arts saved Israeli girl from suicide bomber

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

AS THE Israeli death toll from last week's triple suicide bombing in Jerusalem rose to five, a Jewish girl told yesterday how lessons in martial arts had saved her life after one of the three guerrillas grabbed her by the hand.

"The [Islamic] terrorist gave me a scary look and grabbed my hand right," said Mital Perry, 17. "When he grabbed me, I instinctively used a release method I learned in a tae kwon do class, and stuck my elbow in his stomach. I managed to run two or three paces and then heard an enormous explosion and flew

backwards." Miss Perry, who was lightly wounded in the pelvic area, told the Hebrew daily *Yediot Acharonot*.

The Israeli student said: "I came up from the Zion Square side and about midway noticed three men who looked suspicious. I kept walking towards them and then they split up. The terrorist quickly came over to me. I thought, 'I am about to die.' The tae kwon do saved my life."

The fifth Israeli victim to die as a result of the attack was named as Eliyahu Markovitch, 40. Hospital officials said that his 11-year-old son was still seriously ill.

Hebron: Israeli soldiers acquired a weapon and arrested him. (Reuters)

Palestinian in this West Bank town yesterday and then fired teargas when passers-by attempted to intervene. The Israeli Army said that Ashraf al-Hdoush, 20, had attacked an Israeli soldier at a check-point, but a witness said: "15 soldiers took him out of the car, bound him and beat him until blood started gushing out of his mouth and ears."

Aishel Midyeh, an elderly woman, said she got a knife from her house and returned to try to free Mr al-Hdoush's hands as he lay bleeding on the ground. She said: "The soldiers took the knife from me and accused Hdoush of

acquiring a weapon and arrested him." (Reuters)

Calcutta: Children are flying at half mast. The military, officials from the Missionaries of Charity and senior government bureaucrats are working out arrangements for Saturday's ceremonies, designed to express spectacularly India's feelings for a Christian who touched the nation more than any other foreign-born person.

Her body will be handed over to the control of the military on Thursday, in accordance with custom for a state funeral. On Saturday morning, it will be taken on a gun carriage, draped in the national flag, from the church for Mass at the city's Netaji indoor stadium, which can hold 12,000 people. The subsequent interment will be attended only by members of the order because there is so little space, although huge crowds are likely to gather near by.

Yesterday St Thomas's was overwhelmed by the desire of people to see her body. Roads around the church were sealed to traffic and it was decided to leave it open 13 hours a day.

Beyond the image, page 14

Letters, page 19

New York judge asks shrink to rule in dog-eat-dog dispute

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

A JUDGE has ordered a dog to undergo a "full psychological examination" to determine why it bit off a woman's thumb as she struggled to rescue her pet puppy from its jaws.

The incident occurred two years ago when Grace Shen, now 62, was walking Casper, her minuscule West Highland terrier, outside her home in the Bronx. They took a few leisurely steps when a large chow, three times the size of Casper, bounded up and sank its jaws into the dog's neck.

Mrs Shen tried to prise open the chow's jaws. The larger

dog, Chester, let him go, but not before biting off her right thumb. It was later sewn back on, but Mrs Shen, a nurse, claims that she can no longer perform intricate tasks requiring the use of her thumb.

Mrs Shen sued the dog's owner, Oleg Kornchenko, a security guard at the Russian Mission to the United Nations, for \$10 million (£6.2 million), for trauma suffered by her and her dog, and for the loss of feeling in her thumb.

Yesterday Judge Barry Salzman of the State Supreme Court ordered Mr Kornchenko to take Chester "forthwith" to an animal behaviourist to determine whether the dog has a "vicious propensity". Mr Kornchenko's lawyers had argued that the puppy should be also examined, but the judge ruled that there was "enough prima facie evidence to conclude that Casper was a mild-mannered dog".

□ Pet craze ends: Nine months after the film *101 Dalmatians* hit America's screens, prompting a craze for the breed, hundreds of Dalmatians are being handed to animal shelters across the country. One shelter in New York said that many people, seduced by the dogs' cuddly screen image, had been unprepared for the breed's energetic manner, hot-headedness and general recalcitrance.

Stallone swaps narcissism for introspection

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

FORGET Rambo and Rocky: Sylvester Stallone yesterday announced a new, softer and more cerebral persona for his next run of films.

"The cult of the body is narcissistic and self-defeating," Stallone said in Rome, where he was laying the foundation stone of a new Planet Hollywood theme restaurant. He said his next project was a film set in the world of Formula One racing. "But it will be a psychological study. I'm not even sure I'm going to star in it myself."

He told one Italian newspaper: "I've had success few people can dream of, but for the past 11 years I have led a shallow and egocentric life. My eyes have been opened, and I'm turning over a new leaf." Even his political views have changed, he said: as

Rambo he had supported the right-wing policies of Ronald Reagan, "but now I support the more liberal views of President Clinton".

At 51, Stallone may be slowing down a little. He said the birth of a child suffering from heart problems had made him realise "how short, fragile and precarious life is". He put on weight for his last role as a paunchy New York policeman in *Copland*, shown last week at the Venice Film Festival. The cop, Freddie Heflin, far removed from Stallone's normal muscular supermen; he is a loser, with a messy love life and no career prospects.

Yesterday, Stallone, who is of Italian-American origin, used his visit to Rome to announce that he had signed a deal with Bernie Ecclestone, the owner of Formula One racing, allowing him to make a film set in the high-octane world of motor racing. "It's an idea I've had for

some time," he said. "This deal has taken two years to put together."

Would he play a racing champion himself? "No, I am not sure I am going to be in it at all, and if I am, I'll probably play someone behind the scenes." His idea was to follow "the lives, characters and lifestyles" of four racing drivers: one based on Michael Schumacher, one on Damon Hill, and one on Giancarlo Fisichella, the Italian Formula One driver who raced at Monza at the weekend and was with Stallone yesterday.

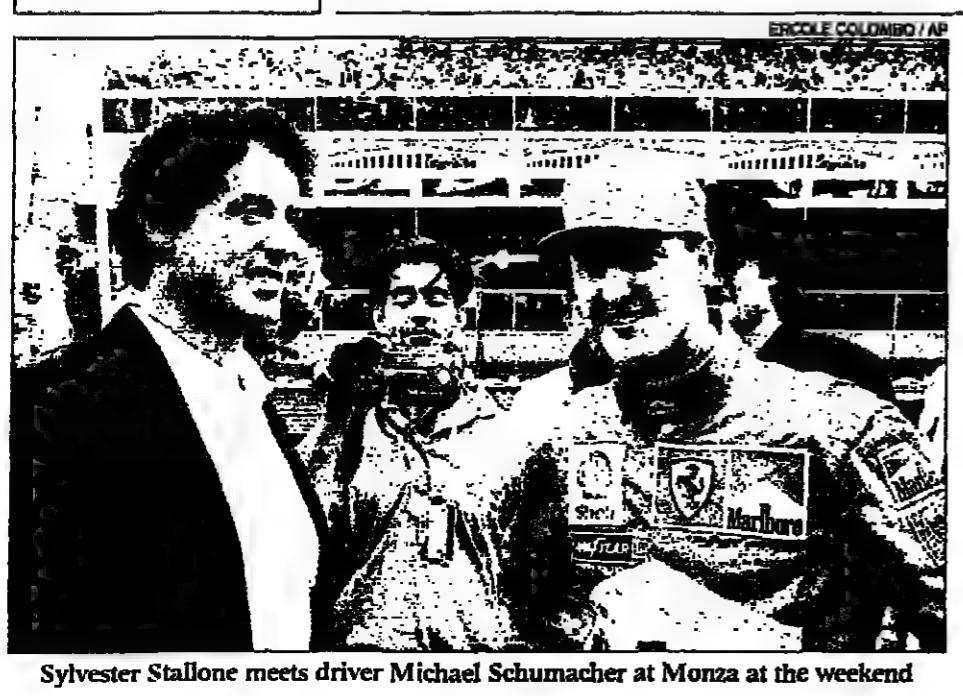
The fourth driver will be someone who buys his way into the sport. I'm not going to name names, I don't want to get anyone angry." His aim was to make a psychological study. "This is not a gunnuck. It will not be a one-man movie."

One of his entourage confided that Stallone might make another *Rambo*

movie, but it would present a different style of hero, "more introspective, more thoughtful, with character development". This was a bit much for Italian reporters who resorted to asking him what his favourite food was. "Ice cream," he responded.

But Stallone, who looked slim and fit despite his weight increase for *Copland*, insisted he had "lost his muscles". He posed with one of the historic cinema artefacts to be displayed at the Rome Planet Hollywood: the camera used by Marcello Mastroianni in *La Dolce Vita*, valued at £155,000 (\$250,000).

He then emerged to an ecstatic welcome from the crowd outside who chanted "Rocky, Rocky", apparently oblivious to his change of image. "It's great to be an Italian," Stallone told them, in English, before heading for the airport and Miami.



Sylvester Stallone meets driver Michael Schumacher at Monza at the weekend

Mobile of con stifle

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THE TIMES TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 9 1997

OVERSEAS NEWS 13

Mobutu legacy of corruption stifles Congo

By SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

MOBUTU SESE SEKO, who reduced Zaire to poverty and chaos during 32 years in power, died on Sunday in exile in Morocco after a long battle with prostate cancer.

His relatives said he would be buried in Morocco but that the arrangement was provisional, suggesting that his final resting place could still be his homeland. Mobutu's legacy of a corrupt style of government — that led to the coining of the word "kleptocracy" — will take far longer to erase in Zaire, renamed the Democratic Republic of the Congo after his removal.

Laurent Kabila, who marched across 2,000 miles of jungle to drive Mobutu out of office with the help of troops from Uganda and Rwanda in May, is inching towards reforming a state that was allowed to implode by Mobutu. But serious questions remain over whether Mr Kabila is the real power in the Congo, since his armed forces still rely heavily on Tutsi manpower from Rwanda.

The jury is still out on Kabila and his entire regime. There has been a marked improvement in attitude compared to the Mobutu era. People turn up for work and corruption is being weeded out, civil servants are getting paid. But he has yet to cement his support among the urban elite, without whom he cannot hope to govern effectively," said a Western ambassador in Kinshasa, the capital.

Yesterday, Mr Kabila left for Kigali, the Rwandan capital, where he was to hold talks with Paul Kagame, the Defence Minister and Vice-President. Mr Kagame admitted recently to having sent officers and large numbers of troops to fight in Mr Kabila's rebellion that toppled Mobutu.

For the first time in three decades, ministers who take bribes may be prosecuted. In July, Mr Kabila's former Finance Minister, Mawapanga Mawa Nanga, was the subject of a police inquiry after allegations of corruption were made. The President's main challenge is to defend himself against charges that he will be "another Mobutu" by addressing domestic and international calls for greater democracy, while rebuilding a nation 80 times the size of Belgium, its former colonial master. The country has no road or rail

routes linking its main cities and has a per capita income that is too low to warrant measuring. Key towns such as Kilwii, 200 miles east of the capital, have no regular power supply. In towns, trees grow

President Mobutu reduced his mineral-rich country to poverty and anarchy during 32 years in power

through the tarmacadam of main streets and transistor radio batteries are a forgotten luxury.

Pro-democracy activists who opposed Mobutu — but never took up arms — have

complained bitterly about the new regime's curbs on their right to demonstrate for greater freedoms. Human rights groups said yesterday that a student was killed last week in clashes with troops on Kinshasa's main campus. At least 20 demonstrators have been killed in recent demonstrations calling for greater rights.

Leading article, page 19

Obituary, page 21

Dictator who delighted in chaos and witchcraft

"YOU know what his name really means?" smirked Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu wa za Banga's Minister of Information.

"It's not what we tell you — about him being the warrior who will never be vanquished and all that. It means 'the cockrel who jumps all the chicks in the farm yard,'" he snickered. "The old man has coddled all his potential opponents."

Hours after this bizarre encounter I met Mobutu. The low vulgarity of his minister was but a pale reflection of the high-kitsch leader himself.

In 1991, many of the once-gracious avenues of his capital had been reduced to rubble after an orgy of looting



Mobutu had a warped sense of humour, but the joke was invariably against his own people, Sam Kiley writes

which he orchestrated. The army, Civil Service and health workers had not been paid for months, and his Government was on the point of revolution.

But Zaire's President could not have been happier. Wearing a bright Mao-style jacket and a leopardskin hat, he traded insults with angry students on the lawn of his marble palace in Kinshasa, and shook the hand of Etienne Tshisekedi, the oppo-

sition leader he had just appointed Prime Minister, with a look of smugness.

The pleasure Mobutu took in discomfiting his enemies, in co-opting them into his web of intrigue and corruption, and his genuine enjoyment of the chaos he caused in his country were the hallmarks of his 32 years in power. They were also the cause of his downfall this year.

The tall and charismatic

Joseph Desire Mobutu took power in a military coup in 1965. A former journalist and one-time CIA agent, his early years in power were marked by self-aggrandising and corrupt buffoonery which had the support of Washington, which saw him — as one State Department official put it — as "a bastard, but our bastard" during the Cold War.

His absolute rule through the Popular Movement for the Revolution, a party neither popular nor revolutionary, was shored up by Western allies who feared that Zaire's vast natural resources, including uranium, oil, diamonds, and 60 per cent of the world's cobalt, would fall into Kremlin hands. Until

the United States and the World Bank cut funding to his Government in 1990, Mobutu was convinced he would rule Zaire until his death. By then he had unleashed a policy of "authentication" on the country, banning Christian names and Western dress. He drove away foreign capital.

But the signs of the collapse of his country were all around him. At his palace he could not have failed to note that the walls were cracking, the plush red carpets were soggy, and the gardens were a mess, with fountains choked and marble paths overgrown.

Rattled by his rejection by the West, he turned to West African marabouts, or witch

doctors, at the end of the 1980s. They reassured him with the prophecy that he would never be deposed while he lived on water, so he moved his home to the Camanyola steamer moored on the Congo River.

Isolation was all he needed to ignore the cries of people from whom he stole at least £5 billion. The marabout's promises and a policy of unleashing the army on looting rampages whenever the opposition gained strength seemed to him the potion that would keep him in power.

Confidence oozed from his greetings. When he put a large hand on my shoulder at a reception one temporarily forgot that the man was a murderer who killed those whom he could not buy.

His rule by chaos kept him in power until Laurent Kabila, in a rapid military advance across the country, proved to Zaireans that the emperor had no clothes. Until it was too late, Mobutu neither knew nor cared, and his administration had long since been overtaken by despair.

At another of his palaces, this one alongside the Camanyola, I walked past his ceremonial bodyguard — pygmies in Napoleonic cavalry uniforms, high boots and plumed hats that covered their faces. One could only assume that he had a sense of humour. But the joke was on Zaire.

Support for Royal Family falls in Australia

FROM ROGER MAYNARD
IN SYDNEY

AUSTRALIAN support for the monarchy has plunged to an all-time low since the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, while republican support has soared, an opinion poll has found.

The survey, which was conducted three days after the Princess's death, found that 53 per cent of Australians favoured a republic compared with 47 per cent of those questioned in a similar poll last year. Support for a constitutional monarchy also fell from 42 per cent to 37 per cent.

Australian newspapers said the results of the poll reflected anger against the Royal Family for not publicly displaying grief until after heavy criticism. The survey also found that one in three of the 44 per cent of people who were readers of tabloid newspapers or women's magazines would read such publications less often as a result of the Princess's death. A further 76 per cent demanded tougher laws to protect the privacy of public figures.

Last night, John Howard, the Prime Minister, gave a warning of the danger of the republican debate being influenced by the death of the Princess. Calling for a considered debate on the issue, he said he hoped that the strong emotions stirred last week would not affect Australians' attitudes to whether they wanted to become a republic. "I hope it's done in an informed, calm way and not under the shadow of a really traumatic week," he said.

Asked about the Royal Family's handling of the events of the past week, Mr Howard said: "They really are in a damned-if-you-do, damned-if-you-don't situation. If they had been too fulsome publicly at the beginning, people may have accused them of hypocrisy. By not doing that at the beginning they have been accused of reticence — it's a very difficult situation."



Howard: call for debate to be informed and calm



Biljana Plavsic, the moderate Bosnian Serb leader who has been given political and military support by the West in her struggle against Dr Karadzic, was taking no chances and ordered her police out in force around Banja Luka. They were backed up by armoured personnel carriers belonging to the Krajin Corps, the element of the Bosnian Serb army most loyal to Mrs Plavsic. British troops in Nato's Stabilisation Force initially merely kept a watchful eye, but yesterday they were deployed in large numbers on the road east of Banja Luka, the main axis with the Karadzic bastions of Breko, Bijelina, Zvornik and the Drina Valley. A British Sfor spokesman said that American troops had joined the operation further east, guarding the strategic Brcko corridor which links Karadzic-controlled eastern Bosnia with Mrs Plavsic's western territory.

Banja Luka thwarts Karadzic supporters

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

BRITISH troops and police loyal to the Bosnian Serb President, Biljana Plavsic, foiled plans for an explosive rally in her stronghold by her foes, supporters of Radovan Karadzic.

Only some 500 Karadzic supporters appeared in the centre of Banja Luka at the appointed hour, chanting anti-Plavsic slogans and waving Karadzic posters. Tensions were high, with riot

police guarding Mrs Plavsic's office and the main television studio. Pro-Plavsic people, vastly outnumbering those at the failed rally, booed, jeered and chanted.

With just three days left until municipal elections in Bosnia, Dr Karadzic's Serbian Democratic Party (SDS) is in disarray. Banja Luka is at the heart of the SDS's problems, and senior leaders of the party began arriving in the town at the weekend to pave the way for a rally.

Tokyo on alert as gang wars erupt into street battles

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

TOKYO police were put on alert yesterday as a power struggle in Japan's biggest crime syndicate threatened to erupt into a full-scale gang war. Shots were fired at a gang-leader's house, the latest in a spate of shootings, and police said that a bitter struggle among yakuzza (gangsters) belonging to the Yamaguchi-gumi was only just beginning.

Police are bracing for further retaliatory attacks triggered by the killing of Masaru Takumi, the number two man in the 18,000-strong Yamaguchi-gumi on August 28. Takumi, 61, was shot in Kobe by four gunmen believed to be members of a rival group.

The death of a bystander hit by a stray bullet shocked a nation that prides itself on safe streets and one of the world's lowest rates of crimes involving guns.

The cause of the current strife is said to be the declining strength of the yakuzza, 40 per cent of whom belong to the Yamaguchi-gumi. Lucrative rackets such as extortion, prostitution and gambling have been hit by Japan's prolonged economic recession. The gang's front businesses such as property and restaurants are also bringing in less money. The Organised Crime Control Law, introduced in 1992, has further reduced the pickings.

Since police began their crackdown, crime syndicates have been forced to streamline operations. This has led to a great deal of bitterness

among those who have lost their livelihoods. Unemployed yakuzza — conspicuous by their gaudy tattoos, and missing little fingers severed in a display of loyalty — are not the immediate choice of personnel managers hunting for new staff.

Takumi, the slain gang leader, was a strong believer in the yakuzza tradition of not causing trouble to the public, and was at pains to improve the Yamaguchi-gumi's image: it was his idea to start a soup-kitchen for Kobe earthquake survivors two years ago.

But he attracted hostility for his tough restructuring methods. Weaker groups within the Yamaguchi-gumi were dissolved when their bosses died or retired, and their members pushed out. In particular, a group called the Nakano-kai objected to the way Takumi was running the group.

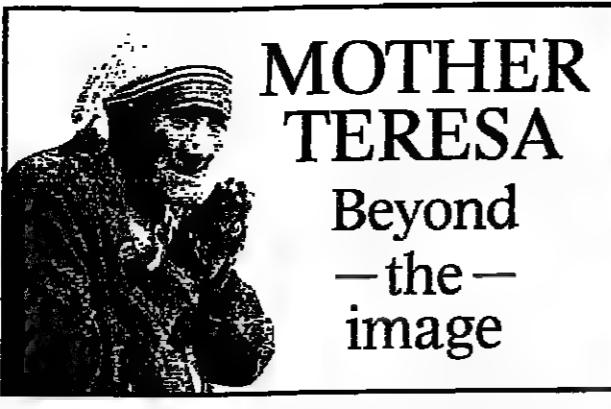
Last week Yamaguchi-gumi leaders decided to expel this group's boss, Taro Nakano, because of his suspected involvement in Takumi's death. The Nakano-kai is believed to be the target of the daily shooting incidents in which two suspected yakuzza have been wounded so far.

Second term: Ryutaro Hashimoto, Japan's Prime Minister, was automatically re-elected to a second term as President of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) yesterday when no other candidates came forward to challenge him. Mr Hashimoto, 60, will remain Prime Minister.

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The love that showed up on film

In the first of three extracts from her new book, Anne Sebba examines Malcolm Muggeridge's role in the Mother Teresa phenomenon



MOTHER TERESA

Beyond — the — image

The beginning of the Sixties coincided with a tremendous momentum in Mother Teresa's charitable operation. She started to win international awards for her work, many of them with large cash prizes. There was a potent sense of idealism around, which she harnessed better than anyone else. There was a distinct feeling that here was someone who was actually doing something to right the ills of the world instead of merely demonstrating, or smoking dope, talking of doing something.

Anyone who lived through the 1960s must remember the experimentation, the restlessness and the confusion, especially among the young. All ages react against their parents, but the 1960s were particularly vocal in dismissing the false conclusion of the previous age and in continuing to search for certainty or reassurance. Malcolm Muggeridge appeared to many to personify this quest for true goodness, or saintliness or moral truths.

Muggeridge was, in the early 1960s, not merely an agnostic but a mocker of religion in general. Born in south Croydon in 1903, he represented himself as an agonised seeker after truth who, in his youth, had flirted with the notion of becoming a priest. He made his name as a journalist on the *Manchester Guardian* and in 1934 had gone to live in India, working on the English-language *Calcutta Statesman*. On his return, he became a feature of

London literary life, partly because he had by now found his form as a writer, but also for the regularity with which he had affairs or made passes at women.

In 1968, in a rather inspired piece of casting, Oliver Hunkin, then head of religious broadcasting at the BBC, asked Muggeridge if he would do a short televised interview with a little-known nun from India. "He was rather put

'It was for me one of those special occasions when a face seems to stand out from all other faces'

out," Hunkin recalls, "because it was such short notice and she could only spare us an hour."

Muggeridge had not heard of Mother Teresa, but he read up the biographical notes and agreed to come to a small religious house, the Holy Child Convent in London's West End, to shoot the interview.

There were no intellectual fireworks: Mother Teresa, already small and wrinkled, appeared slightly halting and nervous as Muggeridge put the expected questions. When

she first felt this special vocation? Any doubts or regrets?

"Mother Teresa's answers were perfectly simple and perfectly truthful," Muggeridge explained later. "So much so that I had some uneasiness about keeping the interview going for the required half-hour. Controversy, the substance of such programmes, does not arise in the case of those who, like Mother Teresa, are blessed with certainties."

So ordinary was the interview that there was even some question about whether it should be broadcast. But it was transmitted in May 1968 in a BBC Sunday night series, called *Meeting Point*.

Afterwards, there were critics who recognised the extraordinary chemistry at play between the two protagonists, but there were many more members of the public who, moved by Mother Teresa's account of her work for the sick and poor of Calcutta, sent donations — according to one account £25,000 resulted from this single interview, although no appeal had been made.

All the accompanying letters made similar remarks about how Mother Teresa's words had spoken to them in a way that nobody else's ever had. Bewildered BBC executives decided to repeat the programme rather quickly — with an even greater response.

Muggeridge said he never imagined that anything memorable had been recorded. And yet he was smitten. He had known that from the moment she walked into the room. "It was for me one of those special occasions when a face, hitherto unknown, seems to stand out from all other faces as uniquely separate and uniquely significant, to be thenceforth forever recognisable." Almost immediately, he worked to persuade the BBC to send him with a film crew to Calcutta to record Mother Teresa in action. In the spring of 1969, he went with Peter Chafer, the producer, and Ken Macmillan, the award-winning cameraman, to make three religious films in India. Although initially reticent, Mother Teresa had apparently been persuaded to co-operate by Cardinal Heenan, Archbishop of Westminster. She agreed, she told Muggeridge, "if this TV programme is going to help people love better".

In his account of the filming, Muggeridge recounts how, while Macmillan and the sound recordist were setting up their equipment, Mother Teresa suggested going up to the chapel together and praying. "I readily agreed... We knelt side by side." Thus, from the start, Muggeridge became part of the myth of the film he was making.

The next five days are shrouded in a fairytale cloak of divine protection.

That a 50-minute documentary could be made at all in five days, rather than the normal two to three months, was, Muggeridge asserts, extraordinary to a miraculous degree.

Secondly, the filming proceeded with quite exceptional smoothness and speed, with none of the usual breakdowns and crises. "All this, as anyone with experience of filming expeditions will know, amounted to a kind of miracle," Muggeridge wrote.

But the "actual miracle", which has prompted considerable debate since, concerns shots taken inside the Home for the Dying, which Macmillan was initially uncomfortable about filming. "This Home for the Dying is dimly lit by small windows high up in the walls," wrote Muggeridge. "Mr Muggeridge's

macle, wrote: "This love is luminous, like the haloes... round the heads of saints. I find it not at all surprising that the luminosity should register on a photographic film. The supernatural is only an infinite projection of the natural."

In all events, Macmillan was adamant at first that filming was impossible in the Home for the Dying: the crew had only one small light and to get the place adequately lit in the time at their disposal was impossible. He had just taken delivery of some new film. They had not even had time to test. Because of this, he agreed to have a go. "So we shot it. And when we got back, we were sitting in the rushes theatre at Ealing Studios and eventually up came the shots of the Home for the Dying, and you could see every detail. I said 'That's amazing, that's

it is time now... to look at your finances and make arrangements for a better future?

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With the filming completed, Muggeridge returned to England only to find the "miracles" continuing when he discovered that the film was already in the right shape and hardly needed editing. Mother Teresa wrote to him shortly afterwards: "I can't tell you how big a sacrifice it was to accept the making of a film — but I am glad now that I did so because it has brought all us closer to God. In your own way try to make the world conscious that it is never too late to do something beautiful for God."

Chafer, the producer, who describes himself as not religious, nonetheless insists that his life was permanently affected by making this film. "She is one of the most extraordinary people I have ever met. Very practical and running a very tight ship. I think she's awfully good at being a nun. The lady has such an enormous personality that for me, all other preconceptions went out of the window." Chafer is not prepared to stake an opinion on the miracle debate. "All I know is that I was extremely grateful to have my film. But it was not my film that put Mother Teresa on the map. No, it was her. If she had not had her own charisma, it would not have worked. She definitely has something going right."

C hafer was not alone in this view. It is impossible to know precisely what impact the film had in persuading young women to enter the Missionaries of Charity because, within Roman Catholic circles, Mother Teresa was fairly well known. Yet by 1970 they were flocking to join, and in that year alone 139 new candidates were received into the society.

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miracles, wrote: "This love is luminous, like the haloes... round the heads of saints. I find it not at all surprising that the luminosity should register on a photographic film. The supernatural is only an infinite projection of the natural."

In all events, Macmillan was adamant at first that filming was impossible in the Home

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FEATURES 15

'I can spare 40 minutes. So, show me why I should date you — or get lost'

Dating in New York is fraught with hazards. Just meeting another single (and romantically willing) person is an obstacle course of blind dates, dating services (such as "It's Just Lunch", which caters for busy professionals), the personal ads or just plain luck.

Even if you meet someone, there is another hurdle: most single New Yorkers have pared their personal lives down so much that the average date lasts no more than an hour; the same amount of time you might spend at a job interview — which is just how many New Yorkers view the dating process.

Rublessness runs through every social engagement — you have one shot at making the right impression on your date. Francesca Castagnoli, 26, a writer for *Mademoiselle* magazine, says: "New Yorkers are goal-oriented, and the attitude on a date is 'This is my job, this is what I do, and we have 40 minutes to hang out to see if you're on my wavelength — otherwise, scram'. If a date is not instantly rewarding, they would rather not make the effort. People are wedded to their jobs, personal trainers and aerobics classes, where there is a guaranteed reward and satisfaction. They don't

want to spend unnecessary time on dating."

This attitude inspired three psychologists — Dr Valerie White, Dr Ann Demarais and Dr Eyal Pavell — to form a new dating service. First Impressions. Launched six months ago, it is open on Saturdays and some weekday evenings. The aim is to arm yourself for your date as you would for an interview.

Dr White, 34, and Dr Demarais, 37, have drawn on their experience of coaching executives of Fortune 500 companies on communication skills. "When we meet someone for the first time, there is often a gap between the way we are perceived and the ways others perceive us," says Dr White. "F.I. can bridge that gap. By interacting with you on a simulated date, then giving you feedback on the impression you make, an F.I. consultant [several other psychologists work part-time] can show you how to capitalise on your best qualities."

For a fee, of course — analysing your dating skills will cost you \$200. And isn't

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asked to sign a "Participation Agreement", which states: "I understand the date is purely a simulation and that there will be no physical contact between myself and the dating consultant. I agree not to pursue the consultant for social or romantic encounters."

With this in mind, I decided to take the bull by the horns and offer up my soul for inspection, and see if my rusty skills (I am happily attached) could be put back into use. I was waiting, my palms sweating, at the designated spot in SoHo, downtown New York, when a tall, dark and attractive stranger asked me if I was his blind date. I nodded and followed him into the Paninoteca Café. After introducing himself as management consultant "Nick Brown", our date got under way. For the next hour, we discussed everything from the latest movies, books, politics and our respective professions to more personal topics, such as family relationships.

The date seemed to run smoothly, we got on amicably enough, and at the end he asked me out on a second date. I accepted happily enough, then realised it was time for the tough part. We arranged to

meet back at the F.I. offices half an hour later, where we spent the next two hours evaluating my performance.

"Nick", alias Dr Pavell, 33, started by saying that he would focus on my positive aspects first. He consulted a checklist as long as my arm, filled with comments such as "does not discuss health excessively", "does not discuss marriage", "is not excessively self-focused", "does not fidget", "does not express boredom by yawning". I was dissected on every level, from my appearance, conduct and sense of humour to the level of interest I showed in "Nick".

"You exuded self-confidence, and I was very comfortable with you most of the time," says Dr Pavell. "You are 'high performance' — you score well on most levels, and don't have any big problems — just a few negatives. For example, it felt like you were interrogating me when you asked 'What is your type?' That is too premature to ask on a first date. And you must allow more room for your date. I felt I didn't have the chance to offer you a drink when we first sat down, and you tended to steer the conversation — it is a two-way street."

And my ideal mate? "Someone similar, who has the same kind of lifestyle and interests. You are a 'birds of a feather' type. Don't go for someone who is your opposite." Luckily, my boyfriend, Michael, is rather like me.

So who uses the service? Dr Pavell says there are two general types: "The less confident, who find it hard to get a date, and even harder to make one stick. They are introverted, visibly more nervous and not comfortable with themselves. I had a very shy woman who was silent throughout the date and kept disappearing off to the bathroom for ten minutes at a time. I helped her to realise the other person may feel just as nervous, and to channel this nervous energy into some-

thing positive, into letting the real person shine through."

"Another type has gone on hundreds of dates, and is very high-performing — a Wall Street professional, say, who has social graces down to a T. And there are those who've been out of the game for years, and find themselves divorced or widowed, or are unfamiliar with dating in this city or country."

One recent client, David Carr, 32, is a civil lawyer who lives in Manhattan. "I've been single and dating for a long time. Several times things have not worked out and I couldn't understand why. I felt like there was something I wasn't picking up on."

"The service was insightful. I found that although my conversational skills were good, and I came across as

confident, I focused too much on myself, and was prone to bragging. There was an imbalance in the conversation; apart from feeling self-centred, I was listening to what the other person had to say with only half an ear, and making insensitive comments. I was communicating that the other person really wasn't important to me."

"I was happy for someone to put it into words, and help me start remedying my negative points. I pay a lot more attention to my date, am less dominant and really listen to what they have to say. And it has worked. I've seen one girl three times, and as I don't want to mess it up, I've decided to go on a follow-up session at F.I. to fine-tune my skills."

Chloe Adams, 36, is an

engineer who had been married for ten years before being thrust back into the world of singleness. She has dated sporadically, but felt people seemed to be taking her the wrong way.

I wanted an objective third party to look at how I interacted and give me tips on how I could improve. I realised I came across as too aggressive. I've slowed down since. It helped me to see what my strong points were as well, and has given me a renewed sense of pride and confidence."

So is this just another neurotic New York fad, or is there really a need for it in a city renowned for its breakneck pace of working, living and now loving? A *New York Post* columnist, Amy Kean, says:

"People just don't have time to make mistakes or experiment. And people love hearing more about themselves."

"But it's not a bad idea, either. If you are going out dozens of times, and making the same turn-off mistakes, then it's best to discover what you're doing wrong."

Over the next couple of years, F.I. hopes to franchise the service and expand to Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco. And it is looking at London as a potential site, too.

"Londoners are just like New Yorkers — they are busy and career-driven, they are living in a multicultural environment and they use dating services and personal ads, like us. I'm sure we could be of use there," says Dr Demarais.

• *First Impressions*: (01) 212 210223



Juliette Dominguez on her simulated blind date with "Nick Brown", alias Dr Eyal Pavell: "I was dissected on every level, from my appearance to the level of interest I showed in him"

huge
inges
st City

Single New Yorkers usually have only one shot at making a good impression, so many find it pays to consult a specialist, writes Juliette Dominguez

there a danger of clients and doctors falling in love?

They shake their heads vigorously. "For a start, we are all in long-term relationships. Secondly, it would be highly unprofessional to want to date a client," says Dr Demarais. They're not joking. I was

met back at the F.I. offices half an hour later, where we spent the next two hours evaluating my performance.

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Richard Cork surveys the work of the Mexican revolutionary, in life as in art, David Alfaro Siqueiros

Look back on a lifetime of anger

One night in May 1940, David Alfaro Siqueiros, his wife, brother and two friends, burst into Leon Trotsky's house in Mexico City. Cornered in his bedroom, the exiled Russian was easy prey. But Siqueiros and his heavily armed associates bungled the assassination, firing through the closed bedroom door while Trotsky hid under the bed.

What had started out as a murder attempt ended in farce. Having failed to pin suspicion on his arch-rival Diego Rivera, Siqueiros found himself hunted by the police and, after Trotsky was killed by others in August, imprisoned. As a Stalinist hitman, he had been a disaster. But as a fiercely committed revolutionary muralist, he went on to become a hero in his own country. Public buildings across Mexico City are still emblazoned with his dynamic, belligerent wall-paintings, executed on the grandest scale imaginable.

How can such an artist ever be represented in an exhibition? The question hangs over the Whitechapel Art Gallery's survey of one tumultuous decade in Siqueiros's long career. Starting in 1930, when he was arrested and incarcerated in the Lecumberri Penitentiary, the survey brings together many of the most important easel paintings and graphic works he produced over the next ten years. But an exploration of his murals is inevitably confined to a video screened in the gallery, and it cannot hope to convey their sheer visceral impact.

Compared with their headlong fervour, the pictures assembled at the Whitechapel seem disappointingly subdued. Predominantly doir, the paintings suggest that Siqueiros had a puritanical mistrust of colour. His murals prove otherwise; but when at work away from the hospitals and palaces where his headiest ambitions were fulfilled, he sacrificed all that exuberance for a darker alternative.

Once I had adjusted to the gloom, though, Siqueiros's individuality began to emerge. In a 1934 self-portrait, he refuses to see himself as a static, contemplative character. Executed in a typically idiosyncratic combination of black crayon and tempera on a zinc support, it shows him with mouth parted and wild, protruding eyes. The white marks slashed across his forehead, nose and cheek look as aggressive as warpaint.

No wonder he was so often jailed. The pursuit of art alone, divorced from political struggle, would never have satisfied this instinctive activist. He gave up painting altogether in the late 1920s, devoting himself instead to militant union struggles. But after meeting Eisenstein in 1931, he turned

A disaster as a hitman, he became a hero as a muralist

back to art and held his first one-man show the following year.

The sombre mood of his pictures is understandable, given the time Siqueiros had spent in prison. Most of the figures he paints are alone, and hard to discern in the shadows encircling them. One seated woman is based on a 60-year-old peasant who offered to pose for her portrait. But Siqueiros made her gaunt, hooded face look younger, and she hugs herself on a hard, coffin-like box as if desperate for comfort.

Siqueiros's brushwork is the opposite of seductive. He heaps on the pigment until it forms a heavily corrugated surface, so solid that the images end up with a strong

Siqueiros himself seems to have been spared torture during his incarceration at Lecumberri. Ever resourceful, he used fragments of crates to carve a series of 13 small woodcuts. Subsequently printed on bright orange tissue paper, they are among the liveliest and most concise of his works. Their mood, however, remains uncompromising. Single figures of prisoners, bound and helpless, are juxtaposed with ranks of identical, implacable guards. For all the prints' grimness, though, some highlight more tender feelings. A faceless mother clasps her child in a passionate embrace, as if afraid that her offspring might be snatched away like so many other women's husbands and sons.

Soon afterwards, Siqueiros painted a much larger picture of a child alone. The boy's expression is stunned, and he slumps onto the pavement like a bewildered orphan with nowhere else to go. Siqueiros became preoccupied with the plight of all those Mexicans bereaved and impoverished by the perpetual internecine conflicts. One of his most monumental easel paintings shows a Proletarian Mother, hunched and squatting against bleak brick walls. They hem her in, and the three infants surrounding the woman claw despairingly at her body. Paralysed by wretchedness, she makes no attempt to reassure them. The children seem to increase their mother's misery, reminding her how incapable she is of alleviating their distress.

Siqueiros became even harsher when he painted a Proletarian Victim. Full-breasted and sinewy, the grey-haired woman is built according to heroic proportions. But her limbs are trussed tightly with thick ropes, and blood seeping from



Siqueiros's association with the Spanish Civil War informed the powerful portrait *Down but not Defeated* (1939)

a gunshot wound in her head shows she has been executed. Painfully pressed in close-up against the rasping, hairy surface of the burlap, the corpse shows Siqueiros's eagerness to break out of the easel picture's confines.

His decision to paint with pyroxylin, a commercial enamel initially used for the exteriors of aeroplanes, also demonstrates his willingness to experiment with new media. This technical innovation came to a head when he moved to New York in 1935. Establishing a major workshop where his students included Philip Guston and Jackson Pollock, he encouraged them to drip and pool their paint. The significance of this unfettered approach for the development of postwar American abstraction hardly needs stressing.

But Siqueiros himself stayed faithful to figurative art, and the paintings of the late 1930s benefited from a new bold-

ness. Ceramic fragments are used with oil and pyroxylin in *The End of the World*, a fiery and apocalyptic protest against the Luftwaffe's bombing of Toledo. Siqueiros became so involved with the Spanish Civil War that he gave up art for two years. Even so, he returned to painting with renewed power.

Down but not Defeated is his pugnacious title for the coiled, muscular figure who hits the ground in a wrenchingly foreshortened pose. Although the man has been defeated by Franco, his fists remain tightly bunched and his hair fizzles with nervous resilience.

Siqueiros's baleful 1939 self-portrait is mesmeric, centred on a bloodshot eye widened in foreboding. He looks older now, and manic enough to embark on the Trutsky escapade a year later. But the anguish in his furrowed face is prescient, too, gazing with alarm at a world on the edge of annihilation.

• Whitechapel Art Gallery (0171-532 7878) until Nov 2

THE installation by the Canadian artist Doug Brown in and around empty classrooms over a disused swimming pool in a foundling hospital is gently confusing. Brown shows his well-finished, smoothly sanded sculptural pieces, plays recorded sounds of children playing on a beach and has even stretched a painted tarpaulin across an empty blackboard. But it is difficult to know where the independent autonomous art work stops and the installation starts, and the metaphor becomes overstretched.

Thomas Coram Foundation, 40 Brunswick Square, WC1 (0171-278 2424) until Oct 1

DUNCAN CARGILL has chosen to show a series of straightforward formal paintings by Peter Davis to launch his new gallery. Thin fine stripes repeated methodically on a deep aluminium base build a level of pressure across

LONDON GALLERY ROUND-UP

each painting, using a now very familiar language—dark blue, light blue or pink and apricot. The colour starts to look as if it has been drawn from too obvious a range of permutations, so these relatively small-surfaced paintings probably work better on their own than in group.

Duncan Cargill Gallery, 22 Warren Street, London W1 (0171-338 3603) until Oct 25

SACHA CRADDOCK

Venus at the double

THE world's attention was directed elsewhere in Kensington on Friday, which may explain the poor attendance for the UK premiere of one of Hans Werner Henze's most accessible works. *Venus and Adonis*, described by the composer as "an opera in one act for singers and dancers", was received rapturously when it was first given by the Bavarian State Opera in January, and it was easy to see why.

Henze's librettist, Hans-Ulrich Treichel, has come up with a complex dramatic structure that depends on a staging to do it full justice. The three principal characters—Venus, Adonis and Mars—are dancing roles, doubled by a Prima Donna, Clemente (an opera singer) and the Hero-Player, who are rehearsing a Venus and Adonis opera, paralleling the action at every turn. There are also six "madrigalists" whose choral commentaries punctuate the action, and three more dancers playing a stallion, a mare

BBC PROMS

• *Colombia* BBCSO
Alfredo Kraus/Ricardo

and the wild boar that finally kills Adonis.

In this concert performance we were denied the dancers and thus the entire double-frame of the action. In musical terms, however, the evening was a triumph. Henze deploys the orchestra skilfully, dividing it into three ensembles, each associated with a principal. Climactic outbursts are generally reserved for the series of seven instrumental boleros, and Markus Stenz was careful to subordinate his BBC Symphony Orchestra forces to the demands of the vocal lines. The idiom has a neo-Romantic, Mediterranean warmth, making the final threnody, with alto saxophone and a quartet of horns, unbearably moving.

Evelyn Herlitzius, who has the incisiveness of a young Felicity Palmer, was outstanding as the Prima Donna. Christopher Ventris a lyrical Clemente, and Ekkehard Wlaschins, best known in London for his menacing Alberich in the Covent Garden Ring, brought some of the gruffness of that role to the Hero-Player. Given the madrigalian element of Henze's work, and the inspiration of Monteverdi in particular, it was fitting to devote the first half to madrigals from that composer's Eighth Book. Their contrasting characters were vividly realised by Paul McCreesh's Gabrieli Consort and Players.

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Venice Film Festival

THE TIME

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Bad guys are lionised

Wesley Snipes, playing an adulterer, and 'the Japanese Tarantino' took top honours at the Venice Film Festival. David Robinson reports

The Venice Film Festival jury — which included Francesco Rosi, Charlotte Rampling and Jane Campion as president — did not have all that much to choose from. In a better year it is unlikely that Takeshi Kitano's *Hana-Bi* would have walked off with the Golden Lion. It was a popular choice nonetheless. Kitano is currently a top-of-the-market cult figure, popularly styled the Japanese Tarantino, and with Tarantino's combination of technical virtuosity and sense of prevailing taste.

Born in 1947, he abandoned engineering to become a comedian under the name of "Bear Takeshi", in a duo called The Two Beats. His outrageous and disrespectful comedy rapidly made him a household name as a TV personality. In 1989 he began to direct films, generally playing the main role, and in 1993 he soared to international fame with *Sonatine*.

Hana-Bi follows much the same formula as *Sonatine* — tidily crafted, with non-stop, stylised violence and "artistic" interludes and overlays to reassure the serious spectator; he feels it is getting too gratuitous a kick out of visceral shocks like gun massacres or a precisely pierced eye.

Kitano (billed as "Bear Takeshi") himself plays a police detective who gets mixed up with loan sharks and yakuzza when he needs money for a wife dying of cancer. The director relishes the comedy of his own cult status, and snatched the limelight at the Venice awards ceremony, prancing around like the comic demon in a Japanese woodcut and flashing rude V-signs for the cameras.

The last-night audience made it plain that they were less pleased with the award of the Special Gold Prize to Italy's own entry, Paolo Virzì's *Ossosso*, a sympathetic enough picture of contemporary social structures seen through the experiences of a boy growing up in a deprived working-class quarter of Livorno. The script prize went to Anne Fontaine's *Nethoyage Sec* (*Dry Cleaning*), a lethal drama of character that might have been a subject for Claude Chabrol. A young bourgeois couple adopt a chance acquaintance, a fascinating youth who does an act in a drag club. He proves a wizard at the steam iron; but introduces even steamier sensations to their private life. Well sustained and beautifully played (*Mitou-Miou*, Charles Berling, Stanislas Merhar), it could well merit commercial distribution in this country.

FIRST, a confession: Save for a few quotations picked up elsewhere I know Chaucer only from the stage and, the stage being what it is, mine is the Chaucer of cheeky young seducers and farts in the night. Perhaps this is most people's Chaucer, unless they be philologists or students of Eng Lit.

So once again this latest version of his medieval trapeze through Kent gives us the Miller's tale about a reeve and the Reeve's tale about a miller, although the originals are almost impenetrably concealed beneath the trappings of a Viking household and the posturing of two ihyphallic actors somewhere in Italy. Anachronism rules, as one could have expected.

The two other contributions are the Knight's account of love and jousting in Ancient Athens, and the Pardoner's tale about three rogues who stab or poison each other for a bag of gold. I could not accept that the daughter of Theseus and Hippolyta would be called Emily so I blew the dust off my Chaucer and looked her up.

John Colgrave's production has come down south from



Wesley Snipes strolled to the best actor award for *One Night Stand*

for 107 years to be seen. They were shot in 1899-90, five years before the official birth of the cinema, by William Friese-Greene, on cameras of his own invention. Unfortunately he was financially ruined before he could devise a projector, and his films were never seen. Lost for most of a century, they finally turned up in the Cinémathèque Française. Only within the past few months have digital techniques made it possible to copy the fragile prints.

Undoubtedly the world's earliest celluloid motion picture films, they flash and flicker, but the images are there, a vital if misty link with a distant past. A newsboy in King's Road, Chelsea, watches a hansom cab go off ladies in bustles and gentlemen in silk hats walk jerkily by in Hyde Park. Long discredited, Friese-Greene now has his place among the Victorian fathers of cinematography finally and even gloriously vindicated in Venice.

However, Hope frames the four stories in an absolutely terrible tale about ghosts celebrating the anniversaries of their deaths with storytelling. Had the seats of the New End been fitted with projectors, I would have activated mine after the first ten minutes and shot out through the roof.

Matters improve. The solution to marital discord in a Viking household is explained through an absurd music-hall song, a long way after *After the Ball*, and Alasdair Ross has an amusingly unfazed look at the slow-witted Viking. The Athens tale is excellently told, but matters take a downward turn with the Italian thesis when everyone overacts to a level that would give coarse acting a good name. Samantha Parry belts out some good roustabout songs and there is much swishing and swooning — look them up. Goodish in places.

JEREMY KINGSTON

A very parfait night out

THEATRE
The Canterbury Tales
New End, NW3

Yorkshire's Lawrence Batley Theatre, where Ron McAlister is artistic director, McAlister has composed some quite clever pastiche tunes for the show, and Richard Hope's lyrics are often quite clever too. He turns the

ENTERTAINMENT

FIRST, a confession: Save for a few quotations picked up elsewhere I know Chaucer only from the stage and, the stage being what it is, mine is the Chaucer of cheeky young seducers and farts in the night. Perhaps this is most people's Chaucer, unless they be philologists or students of Eng Lit.

So once again this latest version of his medieval trapeze through Kent gives us the Miller's tale about a reeve and the Reeve's tale about a miller, although the originals are almost impenetrably concealed beneath the trappings of a Viking household and the posturing of two ihyphallic

actors somewhere in Italy. Anachronism rules, as one could have expected.

The two other contributions are the Knight's account of love and jousting in Ancient Athens, and the Pardoner's tale about three rogues who stab or poison each other for a bag of gold. I could not accept that the daughter of Theseus and Hippolyta would be called Emily so I blew the dust off my Chaucer and looked her up.

John Colgrave's production has come down south from

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The two other contributions

Trudging towards a new dawn

Reassuringly real, the TUC still has a future, says John Lloyd

Launched yesterday with our celebrity, the TUC conference remains what it has been for decades: the annual expression of a movement of substance.

If, as last week appears to have shown, image and symbolism are to play as large a part in national political life as does reality, then the TUC is clearly out of step. It can change — has changed, is changing — but cannot reinvent itself. It remains too rooted in the day-by-day, in the detail and the felt experience — what people must face when they turn away from the highs and the lows manufactured by the media.

Yet this could be a plus. There could be a place in public life for an institution which refuses to submit to the law that only hyper-visibility confers meaning; that suffering requires the ministrations of a Princess, for example. The TUC could become the symbol of a body which refuses to be treated merely as a symbol; the image of a modernised estate of the real which is interested in more than image.

This is one way forward for the TUC. There are three others.

The partnership which is the theme of this week's conference can yield fruit for the unions and for the country. The TUC has, since the election, rapidly deepened a dialogue with the Confederation of British Industry which, before May 1, was largely confined to health and safety at work. They agree about much on Europe and the economy; they have opened a debate on how flexibility should be defined and operated.

The contentious area between them is union recognition. Labour has pledged to legislate for a statutory recognition of unions where membership exceeds 50 per cent of a given workforce. It was a vague manifesto commitment and is now being thrashed through between the industry and union representatives with no expectation of agreement, but some expectation of reaching greater clarity.

The Prime Minister has told John Monks, the TUC General Secretary, to come back to him with the nearest he can get to a consensus on recognition; on that basis a White Paper will be issued. This will be a real test of partnership for industry and the unions. The latter have had to swallow much these past two decades, and have digested much of that; now, companies are challenged to produce an environment more comfortable in a real — not a symbolic — sense for their workers. The unions say they want to co-operate in ensuring that changes do not threaten productivity or profitability; it would seem a good time to test their intentions.

Secondly, the CBI and the TUC find most harmony on the single European currency — although the unions are committed to enter in the first wave, while the employers are more cautious. Both strongly agree that the level of sterling is damaging to jobs and must

The most contentious area now is union recognition

The author is associate editor of the New Statesman

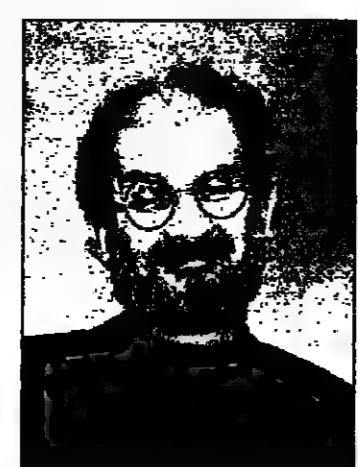
Satanic version

FAIRYTALE? Or Greek tragedy? Instead, for Salman Rushdie the life and death of Diana, Princess of Wales, is straight from the stomach-churning pages of J.G. Ballard's *Crash*.

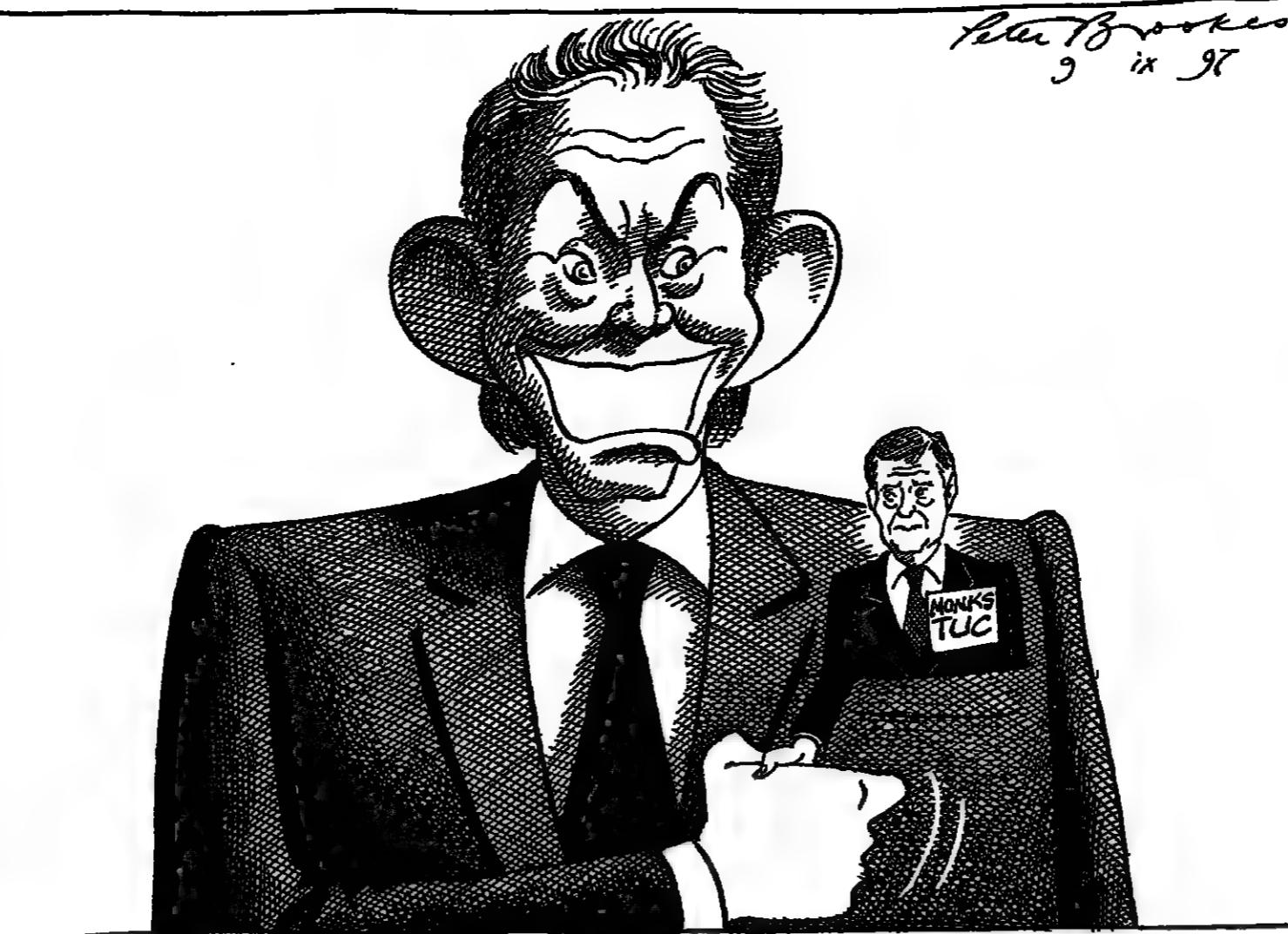
Rushdie draws a shocking analogy in the latest edition of *The New Yorker* to argue that Diana died in a "sublimated sexual assault". Thus, he says, parallels the dark themes in Ballard's book and in David Cronenberg's film in which the perverted eroticism of car crashes echoes the twisted nihilism of a society in decline.

"In Diana's fatal crash," says Rushdie, "the Camera (as both Reporter and Lover) is joined by the Automobile and the Star, and the cocktail of death and desire becomes even more powerful than the one in Ballard's book."

"The object of desire is repeatedly subjected to the unwelcome attentions of a persistent suitor (the Camera) until the dashing, glamorous knight (riding in his Automobile) sweeps her away. The Camera, with its unavoidably phallic long-lensed snout, gives pursuit. And the story reaches its tragic climax, for the automobile is driven not by a hero but by a



Bad taste day: Rushdie



Bravely said, brother

Earl Spencer may not be a diplomat, but he spoke straight from the heart

of you, I want to keep on moping but we mustn't, must we?

I hoped not to be part of this. The weekend mostly passed in what felt like a reasonably appropriate contemplative quiet, talking with my children, sewing and sorting and marking things for the new school term. Life far from cities and cathedrals was normal, if quiet and tinged with the universal sadness. The queue stretched a little way outside Saxmundham Market Hall to sign the book of condolence, everybody

shut their shops and friends talked quietly about the senseless sadness of it all, and how it brought to mind past losses of their own. I would rather have left it there, something never to be forgotten but not to be harped on. However, with apologies, I am going to add my one last word. I want to defend Earl Spencer, all the way.

For Diana, Princess of Wales, was a candle in the wind, we media are the wind-machine. Our racket smothers the central sad simplicity of what happened. We are saccharine, self-regarding, neurotic and competitive; we waver between sentimental, misplaced outbreaks of cleverness and dreadful pinching comments about The Culture and The People.

An agony aunt turns up in a tabloid castigating the idea of the Prince walking behind the coffin:

once they have done so — with a dignity they will be glad of all their lives — the same writer pops up in a broadsheet to condemn tabloids which tell the Royal Family what to do. Another, who sneered incessantly at Diana in life, justifies a sugary volte-face by prodding on about the nature of myth. The vaunted mood of national unity is marred by class hostility as the pop papers wilfully misunderstand the usefulness of "toffs" of a dark suit and a stiff upper lip, while the broadsheets wonder superciliously why the common people leave the Cellophane on their bouquets. (Easy, Cellophane and ribbons mean "look, I didn't nick these from the park, I paid good money for them, to prove I care".)

Then the political writers break cover with a graceless rant from an archetypal Tory boy in *The Sunday Telegraph* accusing Labour spin-doctors of somehow stealing Diana. Print sneers at television while watching every frame, television steals newspaper angles while sneering back. Talk Radio asks listeners to nominate an actress to play "D" in the biopic. Only Radio 4, an oasis of phlegm, decides that what the national psyche requires is a repeat of *The Winslow Boy* and Penelope Keith reading *Winnie the Pooh*.

Puzzled, I went to the tape and watched the Earl's speech again, just as we had watched it on Saturday, sewing name-tapes into school socks through a rust of tears. Had I missed something? Something to justify "brutal, bitter, divisive"? No. All I could hear was a brother.

It is, these days, a largely unsung relationship; but several women said to me that last week they wished for the first time ever that they had a brother of their own. Even those with sisters said it. There is powerful, ancient comfort to be felt at the idea of man — without the possessiveness of a husband or the authority of a father — defending and praising a woman strongly but without illusions: giving a tribute better than admiration, glowing with utter familiarity but untainted by the weariness and guilt of daily contact. I have three

brothers and to me Lord Spencer sounded just right. Analysts may pretend that his words were political or iconoclastic; instinct accepts them as brotherly and brave.

What did he speak, but the plain truth? It is true that Diana's qualities did not depend on royal title alone.

Cynics predicted that the fascination with her would diminish when she lost a part of that title, but it did not.

She shone even brighter alone, more fascinating to worshippers and more comforting to those whose sadness she tried to alleviate. Why should her brother not say so? It is a fact: strange, but true.

And he did not, after all, gloss over other facts, such as her emotional vulnerability and her eating disorder.

Stripped bare by grief, rejecting cliché and platitudes, he spoke of his sister with the frankness which is a brother's privilege.

Some of the phrases used about his funeral eulogy have been extraordi-

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narily: "calculated vengeance", "brutality" and "opening wounds". He was bitter, they said, "inappropriate... divisive... ill-judged". Irrelevant, too: just an "expatriate uncle" from a "dysfunctional family" which could offer little to his nephews.

Puzzled, I went to the tape and watched the Earl's speech again, just as we had watched it on Saturday, sewing name-tapes into school socks through a rust of tears. Had I missed something? Something to justify "brutal, bitter, divisive"? No. All I could hear was a brother.

It is, these days, a largely unsung relationship; but several women said to me that last week they wished for the first time ever that they had a brother of their own. Even those with sisters said it. There is powerful, ancient comfort to be felt at the idea of man — without the possessiveness of a husband or the authority of a father — defending and praising a woman strongly but without illusions: giving a tribute better than admiration, glowing with utter familiarity but untainted by the weariness and guilt of daily contact. I have three

brothers and to me Lord Spencer sounded just right. Analysts may pretend that his words were political or iconoclastic; instinct accepts them as brotherly and brave.

What did he speak, but the plain truth? It is true that Diana's qualities did not depend on royal title alone.

Cynics predicted that the fascination with her would diminish when she lost a part of that title, but it did not.

She shone even brighter alone, more fascinating to worshippers and more comforting to those whose sadness she tried to alleviate. Why should her brother not say so? It is a fact: strange, but true.

And he did not, after all, gloss over other facts, such as her emotional vulnerability and her eating disorder.

Stripped bare by grief, rejecting cliché and platitudes, he spoke of his sister with the frankness which is a brother's privilege.



SPACE FOR DREAMS

In space, sound science should go together with benign politics

Mir's main computer broke down yesterday, number 1,500 and something in the long saga of troubles on the space station. Each of this summer's emergencies has been followed by more or less heroic salvage operations, a blend of modern science and DIY cobblering that would have warned Heath Robinson's heart. These incidents have also shown that in perseverance and talents for improvisation, Russia's cosmonauts and space scientists are second to none. So long as lives are not lost, even bad publicity can rekindle popular interest. But Mir's misfits ought also to sharpen debate about just what man should be attempting in space.

Mir's battered condition is no surprise; although some of the scientific modules attached to it are of more recent date, the ship's core has been in orbit for 11 years, double its planned life. This is an unmatched achievement. But inevitably, Mir's woes invite comparison with the unmanned Pathfinder mission to Mars, a triumph for the robotic scientists of America's National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa). The first in a planned series of ten such missions, Pathfinder and its Sojourner robot have cost Nasa a modest \$28 million — reflecting Nasa's pledge to find "cheaper, faster, better" ways to explore space.

The comparison has sharpened the debate between enthusiasts for putting humans in space and those who contend that brainpower transferred to robots is a sounder scientific investment. Mir's main use nowadays is as test-bed for work on the Alpha space station, due to be launched in stages between next year and 2003, in which the US, Russia, the European Union, Canada and Japan are investing not less than \$20 billion. It is unclear what new worlds this orbiting monster, five times as heavy as Mir and the size of a football pitch, can hope to conquer.

Alpha is not just a scientific project but the centrepiece of America's grand strategic programme of binding Russia, and Russian science, to the West. Its origins lie in President Clinton's order to Nasa, back in

1993, to work with Russia instead of competing with it. Two years later, the first American space shuttle docked with Mir, where mixed crews have since learnt to work together while American and Russian scientists sit shoulder to shoulder at Mission Control. American scientists judge that this experience has enabled their manned space programme to jump ahead by five years. In return, America is contributing \$473 million to Mir over five years, making it one of the few parts of Russia's space programme which sees the colour of real money instead of unreliable government promissory notes.

Russia's budgetary problems are, however, seriously delaying the Alpha project. Coupled with the ignominious fate of Russia's Mars '96 probe, which plunged into the Pacific last November shortly after launch, this has prompted questions about Moscow's value as a space partner. Standard cost-benefit calculations are short-sighted, however, and not only because the hugely innovative technology devised for Mars '96 commands scientists' respect. Russia still makes the world's finest and highly profitable rockets — technology as applicable to war as to peace. The West has every interest in joint enterprises that engage the brains of Russia's world-class, underpaid, space scientists and engineers.

But rather than building Alpha components, Russian brainpower might be better employed combining with American expertise to upgrade the unmanned missions to Mars and other planets which are yielding dramatic scientific gains at low cost. If manned missions do have a future, it might be wiser to abort the plans for the next orbiting station and concentrate scientific and financial resources on Nasa's longer-term goal of a manned mission direct to Mars. Mr Clinton is right to champion co-operation in space for the political and economic, as well as scientific, benefits it can yield on Earth. But this co-operation will be most effective and thus most durable if it yields solid scientific returns.

STUCK IN THE PAST

Trade unions have yet to understand the point of flexibility

One of the first rules of negotiation is not to ask for the earth. This is a lesson that some British trade unionists have still to learn. It was not enough for John Monks, General Secretary of the TUC, to warn his colleagues yesterday: "Don't dream too much; face reality." Still they stood up at the annual TUC conference to demand the undesirable and impossible from the Government.

The latest campaign is for the implementation of John Smith's pledge to give workers the right to redundancy and to claims for unfair dismissal from the first day of their employment. This was a promise that the late Labour leader gave under intense pressure before the 1993 party conference, at which he needed union support to pass his one-member-one-vote reforms. Yesterday John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB union, demanded universal rights from day one and the conference approved a policy resolution backing him.

Yet Mr Smith's promise was soon reversed by Tony Blair when he became Labour leader. To press for a return to the past is as quixotic as calling for nationalisation of the commanding heights of the economy. Trade unions cannot even claim that they are moving further and faster than the Government and that ministers will eventually catch up. Mr Blair is moving in the opposite direction; if he will not give in now, he is most unlikely to do so later.

His intransigence makes perfect economic

sense. Employment rights from day one have never been implemented by any previous Labour Government. The reason is that they swiftly turn into benefit rights. For employers are far less likely to take on new workers if they face expensive redundancy or dismissal claims from the start.

It is easy to make a mistake in hiring people; this must be allowed to be rectified. But more important, employers need to be able to lay off staff in periods of slack demand and to rehire when the economy picks up. Trade unions always used to be in favour of the "last-in-first-out" principle; if those who have served less than two years are the first to go, this ought to be seen as just.

There will always be a few unscrupulous employers who make a point of hiring people for one year and 364 days before dismissing them. But if the qualifying period were reduced, say, to six months, these employees' jobs would be even less secure. They would work for five months and 30 days instead.

Almost all economists agree that the reason why Britain's unemployment levels now fall more sharply during a recovery than those of other European countries is that the Conservative labour market reforms have made taking on new workers less of a risk. Trade union leaders ought to appreciate these virtues. Instead, for all their crocodile tears for the unemployed, they are far more interested in enhancing the "rights" of their dwindling band of working members.

DEATH OF A KLEPTOCRAT

Congolese are still counting the heavy cost of Mobutu's misrule

Few will mourn for Mobutu Sese Seko, the ousted dictator of Zaire who died in exile in Morocco on Sunday. In the country this prince of kleptocrats — the word was coined for him — pillaged for more than 30 years, people are still as angry at the destruction he left as they are despairing of quick improvement under its new rulers. The brief euphoria when the victorious rebel army of Laurent Kabila swept into Kinshasa in May has already subsided. The symbolic change of name to the Democratic Republic of Congo cannot mask the immensity of the task facing Mr Kabila. Corruption, violence and plunder are long-established norms. A new start demands time, patience and money.

Some newspapers are now voicing popular frustrations as well as the partisan demands of politicians, not all of them discredited, now excluded from power. The criticisms range from the Government's failure to legalise political parties and establish a constitutional commission to the venality of officials and the delays to new investment in roads, agriculture and mining.

Many of the expectations are overblown: even the holding of free elections is seen by most Western diplomats in Kinshasa as unrealistic in the present chaotic conditions. But there are two grievances which Mr Kabila must address quickly if he is to consolidate and legitimise his shaky hold on power. The first is the pervasive influence of the military; the second is the disappearance of thousands of Rwandan Hutu refugees and the obstruction of all United Nations attempts to reach or succour them.

Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General,

said yesterday that he had received Mr Kabila's assurance that a delayed UN investigation into alleged massacres could proceed. If true, that is an overture and welcome step. But there must be scepticism about such assurances. A UN investigating team, headed by Roberto Garretón of Chile, arrived in Kinshasa two weeks ago, but met only new limitations. Mr Kabila's own Cabinet is divided, with different signals being sent to the UN almost daily.

The new President's failure to satisfy the international community over the refugees is linked to the provisional nature of his rule. Without the vast and illegally acquired wealth with which Mobutu both bribed and divided regional leaders, he has almost no way of enforcing his authority in a fissiparous country where physical communications have all but collapsed. The far-flung provinces are unwilling to submit to the discipline of a new Government that still relies on foreign-backed military forces.

There are some hopeful signs. The first is the determination of a better educated generation, especially in Kinshasa, not to allow any new strongman to crush their limited new freedoms. Secondly, Mr Kabila, with the continued support of pragmatic East African leaders who helped him to power, is ready to allow Western investors to restart abandoned mines and run-down businesses. Thirdly, Western governments are anxious to help Congo recover. The most practical immediate step they could take is to find, freeze and return to Congo the billions pillaged by the dead dictator and turned into real estate and bank accounts in the West.

Enforceable law to protect the Princes

From Lord Donaldson of Lymington

Sir, The courts, acting on behalf of the Queen in her capacity as *parens patriae* (parent of the nation), have an unfettered discretion to make enforceable orders prohibiting any invasion of the privacy of a child who is a ward of court.

Is it not somewhat anomalous that they have no such power in relation to their own grandchildren unless, which would be unthinkable, they should also be made wards of court?

A one-line Act of Parliament could give them similar enforceable protection, something which the Press Complaints Commission can never achieve.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN F. DONALDSON,
House of Lords.
September 8.

Funeral address

From Mr Paul Wilson

Sir, I expected that I would have to endure a sad day, but I never expected that it would be made infinitely sadder by having to listen to my Queen being cruelly criticised from the pulpit of Westminster Abbey during the funeral service for the mother of her grandchildren.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL WILSON,
14 Residence le Clos,
91370 Verrières le Buisson, France.
September 8.

From Mr John R. Stoner

Sir, Isn't a father a blood relative; and the paternal grandparents and great grandmother; and the paternal uncles and aunts and cousins?

Yours sincerely,
JOHN STONER,
41 Manor Way,
Onslow Village, Guildford, Surrey.

From Mr John Garnett Jones

Sir, I hope that Saturday's unprecedented demonstration of public sympathy and love will be a source of great pride to the Spencer family and a lasting assurance to them that in this great loss they are not alone.

Yours faithfully,
J. G. JONES,
49 Helmings Drive, Danehurst,
Heathcote, Wolverhampton.
September 7.

Displays of grief

From Mr A. Murray

Sir, The debate about emotion at funerals may draw ballast from its antiquity.

In rural parts of medieval Italy it was normal for a widow to shriek in public, dishevel her hair and tear her clothes after her husband's death; so normal, in fact, that the husband's kinsmen might tear her hair and clothes for her if they thought her insufficiently moved.

Townsmen, would-be heirs to the Roman Stoics, strongly disapproved. They passed laws to stop such conduct among their citizens, who could receive a substantial fine "for showing excessive grief" in public. To meet the demands of mourning, town law developed a code to prescribe which parts of clothing should be worn black to mourn this or that dead relation: for a widow, all, and so on down to a simple black emblem. Our custom of wearing a black tie descends from this.

So long-lasting a debate is most unlikely to end in our generation.

Yours faithfully,
ALEXANDER MURRAY
(Tutor in Medieval History),
University College, Oxford.
September 7.

Staff college cost

From Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGroarty

Sir, Brigadier Peter Collins (letter, August 29) points to the proposed waste of "the best part of £500 million" on the proposed Joint Services Staff

Alternative schemes for utilising the extensive Army Staff College site at Camberley, or the naval hall buildings at Greenwich, were each to have cost over £15 million. By including junior command as well as staff training in the remit of the proposed tri-service college, the larger site of Camberley was given the advantage over Greenwich.

It was later found that it would cost over three times that sum to develop Camberley. A hurried decision was taken to build a college near Swindon alongside the Royal Military College of Science.

Millions of pounds are going down the drain to house the staff colleges for the time being at Bracknell on land which could by now have been sold most profitably had the correct decision been taken to back the naval plan and utilise Greenwich as a single defence staff college.

Yours truly,
IAN McGROARTY,
Hill House, High Street,
Lewes, East Sussex, BN1 1JW.

Letters may be faxed to
0171-782-5046
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Devolution 'will lead to acrimony'

From Lord Beloff

Sir, As Scots face their referendum it is worth recalling the circumstances that brought about the union of the Parliaments. It was sought by the Scots in order to obtain entry into the rapidly growing English commercial empire from which they were excluded by protective legislation. It was accepted by the English as a political safeguard amid apprehensions of a disputed succession to the Crown.

Almost 300 years later much has changed. The operations of the economy mean that the interests of the two countries would be very hard to disentangle. The operations of the modern welfare state mean that the Scots are heavily subsidised by the English taxpayer; political bargains have given the Scots over-representation in the United Kingdom Parliament; the party structure means that when Labour is in power central government becomes dominated by Scots.

None of this means Scots have not the right to decide to go back upon the Act of Union and seek their fortunes as an independent country; what it does mean is that "devolution" would call into question the original bargain and lead to the English demanding a reappraisal. The strategic dangers would not be the same; Louis XIV might have landed forces in Scotland; Jacques Santer luckily has none. But "devolution" would inevitably lead to a long period of acrimonious relations between the two nations as prolonged, if not as bloody, as that in the Middle Ages.

Parallels from federal or other forms of devolved government in continental Europe have no relevance; countries have their own histories. None are identical.

Yours truly,
BELOFF,
House of Lords.
September 6.

From Mr George C. Kieffer

Sir, In 1766 Lord Camden said in the House of Lords that "taxation and representation are inseparable". The referendum on Thursday will allow the Scots to prove this with vengeance. Have our politics become so twisted now that the cry goes out "No representation without taxation"?

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE C. KIEFFER,
Tangle Trees,
120 Mountnessing Road,
Billerica, Essex.
September 8.

From Mr Drummond Hunter

Sir, The top priority in Scotland, at this moment, is to rectify what is really dishonest, namely, the hopelessly one-sided partnership between England and Scotland, which was established in 1707. The future of Scotland, after that has been effected, is an entirely separate question. For very many of us, there is little or no doubt that the Union can be saved (and indeed strengthened) only by changing and modernising its whole basis.

Yours truly,
DRUMMOND HUNTER,
17 Wariston Crescent, Edinburgh.
September 7.

Caring legacy of Mother Teresa

From Dr Helen Watt

Sir, Once again, Mother Teresa is taken to task for her views on abortion and birth control ("Press casts doubts over legend of Mother Teresa", September 8).

Mother Teresa was, indeed, opposed to abortion — unsurprisingly, in view of her respect for unwanted human beings of all ages. She was not, however, opposed to each and every form of family planning.

On the contrary, natural family planning — success rates for which are now very high — was actively supported by Mother Teresa as an alternative both to contraception and to abortion.

Yours sincerely,
HELEN WATT
(Research fellow),
The Linacre Centre (for
health care ethics),
60 Grove End Road, NW8.
September 8.

Landmine loophole

From General Sir Hugh Beach

Sir, You report today that the Americans are belatedly expressing support for a treaty banning anti-personnel landmines, despite Washington's insistence that they should be allowed to continue using these mines to defend South Korea as long as they have any qualifications.

This obstacle bears out the worst fears of Flora King of Save the Children and her co-signatories of the letter to you of September 3, pointing out that any such exception would create a fatal loophole through which any number of countries could follow.

On military grounds alone, the American position is misguided. If any North Korean assault were armour-led then it would be accompanied by mechanised mine-clearing devices (flails, rollers, ploughs or explosives) against which anti-personnel mines have no effect.

If, in more difficult terrain, they launched a predominantly dismounted assault, then their vast numbers would allow them to use "human-wave" tactics (as the Chinese did in the same theatre in the 1950s) in which

no casualties caused by mines would simply be disregarded.

If the Americans have in mind the close protection of their own positions they must call to mind the universal adage that to be of any effect mines must be covered by observers and fire.

Normal human observation can now be vastly enhanced by a profusion of high-technology sensors — seismic, infra-red, acoustic, etc. Coupled with the fire of automatic weapons, mortars, artillery and multiple-launch rocket systems, already available in large numbers, the defenders gain nothing from laying anti-personnel mines which have, under international law, to be carefully fenced, marked, guarded and ultimately lifted.

In no campaign in history has the use of mines affected the course of any battle, hardly indeed a skirmish. They are as much a curse to those who lay them as to any potential enemy. Their day has long gone.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH BEACH,
As from The Farmers Club,
3 Whitehall Court, SW1.
September 8.

Forced sterilisation

From Dr J. H. Baron

Sir, Forced sterilisation (article, August 29) did not start only "after the First World War", was neither social democratic nor Nazi in origin, and did not even start in Europe; it was American. This medical eugenics policy was first implemented in 1907, in Indiana, "to prevent procreation of confirmed criminals, idiots, imbeciles and rapists". By 1913 such sterilisation was legalised in 12 states. Between 1907 and the 1970s more than 60,000 people had been sterilised, especially in California.

These laws were conceived and carefully drafted by doctors, were upheld by the US Supreme Court in 1927 and in 1985 were still valid in 19 states.

These US laws were used as models for legislation in Alberta, Denmark and Switzerland (1928), Germany (1933), Norway and Sweden (1934) and Finland (1935).</



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 8: The Princess Royal this afternoon visited the National Birds of Prey Centre, Newent, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire [Mr Henry Elwes].

CLARENCE HOUSE

September 8: Queen Elizabeth The

Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment), today visited the 1st Battalion at Fort George, Inverness-shire.

The Lady Margaret Colville and Major David McMicking were in attendance.



Michael Keaton, the actor, is 40 today

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as Honorary Air Commodore, RAF Lyneham, will open the Help, Information, Volunteer Exchange (HIVE) at RAF Lyneham, Chippenham, Wiltshire at 9.30; as Member, The Merchants House of Glasgow, will visit the house and sign the Golden Book, 7 West George Street, Glasgow, at 11.35; as Patron, Victim Support Scotland, will launch VS 2000 Campaign, James Mair Hall, Mitchell Theatre Complex, Granville Street, Glasgow, at 12.30; and as Patron, Northern Lighthouse Board, will visit three new lights nearing completion on the west coast of the Hebrides, Western Isles between today and Thursday.

Christening

The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Barthurst was christened Ianthe Elizabeth Sophie by the Rev Desmond Minty at St Peter's Church, Wrockwardine, on Sunday, August 31. The godparents are Mr Robert Barthurst, Mr Robert Holden, Mrs Charles Barlow and Mrs Angus Macmillan-Douglas.

Dinner

CARDIFF BUSINESS CLUB
The Lord-Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Captain N. J. Joy Edwards, was present at a dinner held by the Club at the Park Hotel, Cardiff, last night. The guest speaker was the Right Hon William Hague, Leader of the Opposition. Mr Brian K. Thomas, CBE, Chairman, Cardiff Business Club, presided.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: William Bligh, captain of HMS Bounty, born 1757; Count Louis Tolstoy, writer, Yasnaya Polyana, Russia, 1828; Chris Reiling, singer and songwriter, Dawson, Georgia, 1941.

DEATHS: William the Conqueror, reigned 1066-87, Rouen, 1087; Henri Toulouse-Lautrec, painter, Malrome, France, 1901; Mao Zedong (Mao Tse-tung), Chairman of the People's Republic of China, 1949-59, Beijing, 1976.

Birthdays today

Mr R.B. Adams, former managing director, Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, 76; Miss Pauline Baynes, book illustrator, 75; Sir Tom Cowie, company chairman, 75; Raine Commissaire de Chambrun, 68; Professor A.T. Florence, Dean, University School of Pharmacy, 57; Mr Eric Ford, MP, 53; Sir John Goron CH, former Prime Minister of Australia, 86; Mr Neil Holmes, six times world champion powerboat racer, 38; Mr Robin Hyman, publisher, 66; Sir John Loveridge, former MP, 72; Viscount Mackinlach of Haifair, 39; Mr Steve O'Shaughnessy, cricketer, 36; the Rev Professor N.W. Porteous, theologian and linguist, 74; Mr James Sabine-Claire, Headmaster, Winchester College, 30; Mr Richard Sharp, former rugby player, 57; Miss Marisa Sforza, dancer, 39; Mr David Shire, singer and record producer, 45; Dr the Hon Shirley Summerfield, former MP, 66; Mr Chain Topol, actor and singer, 62; Miss Margaret Tyzack, actress, 66; Mr Ed Victor, lawyer, 55; Air Commodore R.H.C. Weighill, former secretary, Rugby Football Union, 77.

Appointment

Mr Colin Richard Fox to be a District Judge on the Northern Circuit.

School announcements

Birkdale School, Shorefield
The school year begins today, with 815 pupils in the school. David Wood is Head of School. Speech Day is on September 11, when the Guest of Honour will be the Rev Norman Drummond, Chairman and National Director, BBC Scotland. Performances of *Sweet Charity* will be given in the Herley Hall on December 3, 4 and 5, and the Senior School Carol Service is in Shorefield Cathedral on December 16 when the Preacher will be the Rev Will Silkman, Vicar of Emmanuel, Chester. Open Days are on October 18 (Senior School) and November 8 (Preparatory School).

Eltham College

The Autumn term commenced at Eltham College on September 3 and will finish on December 12. There will be an Autumn Concert and Choral Concert on October 23 and November 20 respectively, and an Evening of European Drama on November 10. The May Fair Maid of the West will be performed on December 4 and 5. The Old Elthamians Winter Reunion will take place on December 6, with the Carol Service on December 7 (Junior Service on December 9).

King Edward's School, Witley, and Bridewell Royal Hospital

The Treasurer and Governors of Bridewell Royal Hospital will admit new boarders to King Edward's School, Witley, at the Admissions Court to be held at Guildford today. Michaelmas Term begins on Wednesday, October 10. Charlotte Black is Head Girl and Innes Catton, Head Boy. Mr C.J. Alcock has taken up his appointment as Deputy Head, Colonel T.J. Maroney has become the Bursar and Mr P.P. Innes-Hill is Housemaster of Queen Mary.

Northwood College

The Oration Quarter begins today. Mr R.M.C. Gilliat takes up his appointment as Second Master and Dr A.J. Bennett as Under Master. Mr J.P. Freeman, Dr M. Loughlin and Mr N.T. Cooper become Housemasters of Gowyns, Weekites and Pagettes. Ten new members join Brook Hall, including an Artist-in-Residence and a Composer-in-Residence. Adrian Burrows is Head of School and Suzannah Clark is Head Girl. Henry Touison is Captain of Football and Ciara Hunt is Captain of Lacrosse. There will be an Open Afternoon for 1998 entry girls on Saturday, September 20, at 2.15pm. A Gaudy will be held at the School on Saturday, October 11, for those who left in or before Oration Quarter 1995. The Sir Robert Birley Memorial Lecture will be given by Dr John Ross on Wednesday, October 15. Mr Terry Waite, CBE, will speak at the Remembrance Sunday Service on November 9. The Founder's Day Services and Dinner will be held at the London Charterhouse on Wednesday, December 10, and the session will be presided over by the Headmaster. Evens is from Friday, October 24, to Sunday, November 2. The Quince ends on Saturday, December 13.

Durham School

The Michaelmas Term began on September 3, when Mr Neil G.

The following new staff join the

school this term: Miss Lara Robin-

son as Director of Drama, Miss Katherine Penn and Mrs Wendy Lambert as members of the Physical Education Department. Mrs Joanne Gough and Mrs Anna D'Souza as Junior School teachers. Katie Clark and Christina Garrett continue as School Knights and Lisa Benson, Miruna Camagarabam, Sarah-Jane Close, Justice Cordingley, Eileen Hivie, Harriet Phillips, Elizabeth Richardson and Belinda Samy as Standard Bearers. Open House is on Saturday, October 11, between 10.00am and 1pm. The Classics visit Rome between October 24-27. The Senior Drama Production of *The House of Bernarda Alba* will be staged on the evenings of November 27 and 28. Molta House Choral Society will sing *Music for Christmas* on December 6 at All Saints' Chapel. The Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday, December 13, and the Annual Service of Nine Lessons and Carols will be held on Sunday, December 14, at All Saints' Church. The Skating Expedition to Clavelyre takes place between January 4 and 11.

Northwood College

The Autumn term commenced at Northwood College opened for the Autumn term last week. Sabrina Mahanti is Head Girl and her Assistant is Laura Kern. Open Morning will be held on Saturday, September 27, and the Sixth Form Opportunity Evening on October 8. The College production of *Fiddler on the Roof* will take place on November 26, 27 and 28. The Guest of Honour at Speech Day on December 16 is Dame Fiona Caldicot, Principal of Somerville College, Oxford.

Priory Field School

Term started on Wednesday, September 3. Lucy Cunningham is Head Girl and Sophie Crowe is Deputy. Term ends with the Carol Service on December 10, followed by a Christmas Fair at School.

Malvern Girls' College

The School Year begins today with Mrs Philippa M.C. Leggate, MA, MEd, PGCE, as the new Head of Malvern Girls' College. Mr John Frith, BA, FCA, will retire as Chairman of the College Council in November and will be succeeded by Mr Rex Tedd, OC, BCL, MA. The Head Girl is Caitlin Hughes and the Deputy Head Girl is Isabelle Jones. The Autumn Term finishes on Friday, December 12. There are 440 pupils this year in the Senior School and 50 in the Preparatory School. Open Days for parents of prospective pupils will be held on October 18 (Sixth Form) and November 8 (Middle School). The Charity Weekend fund-raising events on November 2, the Founder's Day Services and Dinner will be held at the London Charterhouse on Wednesday, December 10, and the session will be presided over by the Headmaster. Evens is from Friday, October 24, to Sunday, November 2. The Quince ends on Saturday, December 13.

Moira House, Easthampstead

Christmas Term begins today and ends on Wednesday, December 17. The following new staff join the

school this term: Miss Lara Robin-

son as Director of Drama, Miss Katherine Penn and Mrs Wendy

Lambert as members of the Physical

Education Department. Mrs Joanne Gough and Mrs Anna D'Souza as Junior School teachers. Katie Clark and Christina Garrett continue as School Knights and Lisa Benson, Miruna Camagarabam, Sarah-Jane Close, Justice Cordingley, Eileen Hivie, Harriet Phillips, Elizabeth Richardson and Belinda Samy as Standard Bearers. Open House is on Saturday, October 11, between 10.00am and 1pm. The Classics visit Rome between October 24-27. The Senior Drama Production of *The House of Bernarda Alba* will be staged on the evenings of November 27 and 28. Molta House Choral Society will sing *Music for Christmas* on December 6 at All Saints' Chapel. The Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday, December 13, and the Annual Service of Nine Lessons and Carols will be held on Sunday, December 14, at All Saints' Church. The Skating Expedition to Clavelyre takes place between January 4 and 11.

Hillhead, OM, on F.D. Maurice

— Reluctant Radical? For full details and ticket application forms, please contact Janice La-

veron on 0171 637 1260. We are still

keen to hear from any old girls not

yet in touch with the College.

Reed's School

Autumn Term begins today. The new Headmaster is Mr David W. Jarrett, MA, Thomas Warner is Captain of School and Sam Cole

Captain of Rugby Football.

Open Mornings will be held on

September 27 and November 15

and the Annual Foundation Ap-

peal will be launched at Grocers'

Hall on Thursday, October 16.

The Classics visit Rome between

October 24-27. The Senior

Drama Production of *The House*

of Bernarda Alba will be staged

on the evenings of November 27 and

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takes place between January 4 and

11.

Reed's School

Autumn Term begins today. The new Headmaster is Mr David W.

Jarrett, MA, Thomas Warner is

Captain of School and Sam Cole

Captain of Rugby Football.

Open Mornings will be held on

September 27 and November 15

and the Annual Foundation Ap-

peal will be launched at Grocers'

Hall on Thursday, October 16.

The Classics visit Rome between

October 24-27. The Senior

Drama Production of *The House*

of Bernarda Alba will be staged

on the evenings of November 27 and

28. Molta House Choral Society

will sing *Music for Christmas* on

December 6 at All Saints' Chapel.

The Christmas Bazaar will be held

on Saturday, December 13, and the

Annual Service of Nine Lessons

and Carols will be held on Sunday,

December 14, at All Saints' Church.

The Skating Expedition to Clavelyre

takes place between January 4 and

11.

Your team can win you £1,000 in a month

The story so far ...

So I haven't won the first monthly prize of £1,000 this month. Where did I go wrong? Well, it would have helped if you hadn't picked Patrick Blundell of Sheffield Wednesday as one of your full backs. He managed the biggest minus score in August. For that same money, you could have got Celeste Babayaro of Chelsea.

But he's injured. He hasn't played a single game. Exactly — but he didn't score any minus points either. For £4 million you could have bought Dennis Irwin, and scored nineteen. Then there's Dan Petrescu at Chelsea. He's a full back, but Ruud Gullit has been playing him in midfield — and he's always known where the goal is.

But I've already spent my £35 million. What can I do?

Enter the transfer market — the true test of a manager. Are we talking secret meetings at motorway service stations? Brown envelopes? Negotiations with agents at West London drinking clubs?

Nothing so dramatic. You telephone the transfer number and follow the instructions; just lap in the five-digit codes of the players you're transferring in and out. How many players can I transfer at one go?

Up to four per call, but you can make as many calls as you like. And you can make up to six transfers during the season. Some of the more successful competitors transfer players with specific matches in mind.

Who are the players I should be looking at, then?

It all depends on your budget, and don't forget that you can't have more than two players from any one team. So buying the entire Manchester United first eleven is out of the question?

You couldn't afford them anyway. But if you bought one, Peter Schmeichel has scored more points than any other player. Most of the first month's winners have bought him, even if he wasn't in their starting team.

You mean some people have been in the transfer market already? We're only in September.

He who hesitates is lost.

Where do I look for bargains?

How about Scotland? Gilles Rousset has been a bit of a snip at £1.5 million for eleven points so far.

Gilles who?

Rousset. The Hearts goalkeeper.

Never heard of him.

Funny, he said the same about you. The talent's there if you know where to look. Scouting — the mark of a manager.

I thought that was the transfer market! And I don't fancy rainy afternoons on the touchline.

Not necessary. Consult the player lists in The Times every Tuesday. Today, in fact.

Successful entrants to Interactive Team Football have won their August monthly prizes. Just one month's efforts can win you £1,000

TODAY we announce the first monthly winners of the Times Interactive Team Football (ITF) leagues. In addition to the main ITF League, there are three mini-leagues running concurrently: a Women's League, the Mitre Students League and the Dairy Crest Youth League for under-18s. Players too have entered teams: Neil Redfearn, the Barnsley captain, has celebrated his club's elevation to the FA Carling Premiership by heading the players' section.

Alison Hembrow, a history teacher at Christ College in Powys, the August winner of the Women's League, recognised the value of an active transfer policy. "I've kept the defence steady, but I've made a lot of transfers in the first month and brought players in for individual matches," she said. "I went for good value, relatively cheap midfielders, and chopped around a bit." It paid off for her team, the Breconians, despite the postponement of the Liverpool v Newcastle match, in anticipation of which she had made a number of transfers.

Nick Wheatley, whose cryptically-named outfit HDG Is A Sad Waster signed the August award in the Mitre Students' League, also made changes to good effect. "The way Manchester United defended at Tottenham changed my mind about Schmeichel and Pallister," he said.



LineOne

A Chelsea supporter, he begins a geography course at University College London in two weeks, and is one of a number of entrants who included Marco Negri of Glasgow Rangers in their line-ups. Rangers will score a lot of goals, and Negri will probably score most of them," he said.

The three mini-league winners each received signed Mitre footballs, a Mitre sports bag and a pair of tickets to a Premiership match.

Words: Nick Szczepanik

Fantasy team from Fife wins its manager £1,000

THE OVERALL winner of the ITF August monthly prize is Gordon Davidson, from Earlsferry in Fife, who receives £1,000, a Mitre football signed by Stuart Pearce, a Mitre sports bag and a pair of tickets to a premier league game of his choice.

He entered his team, built around solid defensive performers like Gary Pallister, through the Internet.

He is pictured (right) receiving his prizes from John Beresford, the Newcastle United full back, at St James' Park last week.



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30	Chugging Gnash	S Latham	149
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37	Oh No Juninho	Captain Logan	145
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10	I Parade	Parades Prowler	118
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6	I McGill	The White Helmets	123
7	R Gilpin	Inter Pubs&clubs	122
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7	L Nook	Liams Reds	125
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12	K McClymont	Hardgate Hammers	119
13	A Corbett	Ashleigh XI	118
14	O Prescott	Ollie's Acrobats	118
15	T Wells	Tom's Tigers	117
16	R Davidson	6th Kirke	117
17	A Gills	League Surfers	117
18	T Langran	no team name	116
19	G Tindall	Ski All Bran	115
20	G Cohen	Gregorians FC	115

To enter ITF, ring 0891 405 011

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS

All 1997-8 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS AWARDED

Goalkeeper	Keeps clean sheet (per half)*	+3 points
Scored goal	+20 points	
Saved penalty	+1 point</td	

Your list of players and a guide to the top scorers

Dream on... here are the players you would choose if you had unlimited resources and no restrictions



SKY sports
Interactive

If an ITF team based on the August ratings could be formed regardless of price and club affiliation, it would be dominated, as one might expect, by players from Manchester United. In front of goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel, the top points-scorer in ITF, three of the top four defenders are his Old Trafford teammates: Dennis Irwin, Gary Pallister and Henning Berg, the recent signing from Blackburn Rovers.

Chester's Dan Petrescu is the exception to the red rule, but is he truly a full-back? As teams switch formation back and forth from the trendy 3-5-2 to the tried and trusted 4-4-2, wing-backs like Petrescu and Gary Kelly of Leeds United find themselves playing in midfield.

In midfield, it is a similar

story: Nicky Butt, Roy Keane and David Beckham outscored all their rivals in August. However, Benito Carbone, classed as a midfield player although he has been playing further forward for Sheffield Wednesday, would have come out ahead of all three had he not lost three points for his dismissal in the Blackburn-Sheffield Wednesday match, in which he scored both of his side's goals in a 7-2 defeat.

Only in the striking department have Manchester United lost out. Teddy Sheringham, with ten ITF points so far, is some way behind the leading forward, Chris Sutton (29), whose return to form has coincided with the resurgence of Blackburn Rovers, and Dennis Bergkamp of Arsenal (24), scorer of a hat-trick (worth a bonus of ten points) against Leicester City at Filbert Street.

Marco Negri, who has started the season in prolific form for Glasgow Rangers, and Dion Dublin of Coventry City, another hat-trick man on the season's opening day against Chester, have each scored 22 points and are hovering just outside the first team.

Two managers have equal claim to being in charge of the squad: Alex Ferguson of Manchester United, and Roy Hodgson of Blackburn Rovers. Hodgson is more than



TOP TEAM

	Peter Schmeichel	Man Utd
Dan Petrescu	Chelsea	
Dennis Irwin	Man Utd	
Henning Berg	Man Utd	
Gary Pallister	Man Utd	
Nicky Butt	Man Utd	
Roy Keane	Man Utd	
David Beckham	Sheffield Wed	
Chris Sutton	Blackburn	
Dennis Bergkamp	Arsenal	
Roy Hodgson	Blackburn	

entitled to the nod; after all, in the real world, his team sits on top of the FA Carling Premiership, having scored 11 goals to Manchester United's eight.

A little blue-and-white balance to an otherwise somewhat red-heavy team might not go amiss.



Carbone, above left, and Butt are both high points-scorers in ITF so far this season

THIS WEEK'S TRANSFERS

MOVED

51102 Ashley Ward Barnsley £2.0m
Transferred from Derby County

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER

■ YOU MAY transfer as and when you wish according to your team transfer allowance. If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You may adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points

■ EACH TEAM that was entered by August 9 was allocated 60 transfers for the season and each team registering after that date has its number of transfers reduced by three per week up to December 13. All teams registered before noon that day will be allocated an extra 20 transfers. Teams registered after noon on December 13 will be allocated 20 transfers for the rest of the season.

■ THE LINE is open now and will remain open for the rest of the season. You may only make transfers by using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need ten digits for your PIN which you will have to tap in (not speak). Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players that you are transferring.

■ YOU MAY make up to four transfers per call but may make as many calls as you wish to achieve the required amount of transfers.

■ TRANSFERS made before 12 noon on any day will become effective for matches starting after that time. Transfers made after 12 noon will become effective for matches starting after 12 noon the following day.

■ YOUR NEW player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

■ CALLS COST 50p per minute and calls from a telephone box cost approximately twice as much.

Transfer number: 0891 884 628.
Outside the UK: +44 990 200 538.

GOALKEEPERS						
Code	Name	Team	Cost (£m)	Week Total	Cost (£m)	Week Total
10101	J Leighton	Aberdeen	2.00	0	-3	
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	0	18	
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.00	0	5	
10401	D Watson	Barnsley	1.00	0	-4	
10501	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	4	
10601	K Branagan	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	7	12	
10701	S Kerr	Celtic	4.00	0	-8	
10801	E de Goey	Chelsea	3.00	0	9	
10901	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	0	-8	
11001	G Nash	Crystal Palace	1.00	0	0	
11002	K Miller	Crystal Palace	2.00	0	15	
11101	M Poom	Derby County	1.50	0	13	
11201	S Dykstra	Dundee Utd	3.00	0	-5	
11301	J Southwater	Dunfermline	1.00	0	6	
11401	N Southall	Everton	2.00	7	4	
11501	G Rousset	Hearts	1.50	0	11	
11601	C Reid	Hibernian	1.00	0	0	
11701	D Lakovic	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	-7	
11801	N Martyn	Leeds Utd	3.50	0	1	
11901	K Keffer	Leicester City	2.00	0	15	
12001	D James	Liverpool	3.50	0	9	
12101	P Schmeichel	Manchester Utd	5.00	0	39	
12201	S Howie	Motherwell	1.00	0	0	
12301	S Given	Newcastle Utd	4.00	0	11	
12401	A Goram	Rangers	5.00	0	3	
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wed	2.50	0	-11	
12701	M Taylor	Southampton	1.50	0	0	
12801	A Main	St Johnstone	0.50	0	2	
12901	I Walker	Tottenham	3.00	0	11	
12901	L Mikicevic	West Ham Utd	2.00	0	11	
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	2.50	0	2	

CENTRAL DEFENDERS						
Code	Name	Team	Cost (£m)	Week Total	Cost (£m)	Week Total
30101	B O'Neill	Aberdeen	2.00	0	-6	
30201	A Adams	Arsenal	3.50	0	0	
30202	M Keown	Arsenal	3.50	0	0	
30203	G Grimandi	Arsenal	2.00	0	7	
30301	G Southgate	Aston Villa	3.50	0	-1	
30302	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.50	0	0	
30401	A de Zeeuw	Barnsley	1.00	0	0	
30402	A Moses	Barnsley	0.50	0	0	
30403	M Appleby	Barnsley	0.50	0	5	
30502	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	0	5	
30504	S Hanchoz	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	1	
30601	G Taggart	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	4	5	
30602	G Bargson	Bolton Wanderers	1.00	4	7	
30603	C Falcough	Bolton Wanderers	1.00	0	0	
30701	E Annini	Celtic	3.00	0	0	
30702	M MacKay	Celtic	3.00	0	2	
30703	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.00	0	0	
30801	F Labroue	Chelsea	3.00	0	1	
30802	M Duberry	Chelsea	3.00	0	0	
30803	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.50	0	8	
30804	M Lambourne	Chelsea	2.50	0	0	
30901	L Dales	Coventry City	1.50	0	0	
30902	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	0	-5	
30903	P Williams	Coventry City	1.50	0	-8	
31001	A Roberts	Crystal Palace	1.50	0	3	
31002	A Lingham	Crystal Palace	0.75	0	3	
31003	D Tuttle	Crystal Palace	0.75	0	3	
31101	I Stivimac	Derby County	2.50	0	0	
31102	J Laursen	Derby County	1.50	0	3	
31201	S Pressley	Dundee Utd	3.00	0	0	
31301	G Shields	Dunfermline	1.50	0	1	
31401	S Billis	Everton	3.00	4	1	
31402	D Watson	Everton	2.00	1	-1	
31501	D War	Hearts	2.00	0	5	
31601	J Hughes	Hibernian	1.50	0	4	
31801	D Wetherall	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	0	
31802	G Molenaar	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	-2	
31803	L Radebe	Leeds Utd	1.50	0	-1	
31901	M Elliott	Leicester City	3.00	0	14	
31902	P Kaemark	Leicester City	2.00	0	7	
31903	S Walsh	Leicester City	1.50	0	11	
32001	M Wright	Liverpool	3.00	0	4	
32002	D Matteo	Liverpool	3.00	0	-1	
32003	B T Kvarme	Liverpool	3.00	0	4	
32004	H Berg	Manchester Utd	3.00	0	18	
32005	D Walker	Manchester Utd	3.50	0	0	
32101	D May	Manchester Utd	3.50	0	10	
32102	G Pailliet	Manchester Utd	3.50	0	24	
32103	P Albert	Newcastle Utd	3.00	0	5	
32104						

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 9 1997

Interest rate rises put brake on spending

By ALASDAIR MURRAY, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

HIGH STREET sales came off the boil in August as interest rate rises began to bite and windfall spending slowed.

The British Retail Consortium (BRC) monthly sales monitor shows sales growth slumping to a five-month low of 3.9 per cent, compared with 5.2 per cent in July.

But the latest industrial production figures showed the struggling manufacturing sector performing surprisingly strongly, although factory gate prices remain subdued. Manufacturing output rose by 0.4 per cent on the previous month, taking the annual rate of growth to 1.6 per cent – around twice the expected rate.

Economists said that the latest raft of data was unlikely to alter greatly the thinking of the Bank of England's monetary policy committee, which meets tomorrow and on Thursday. The committee has hinted that it will leave interest rates unchanged this month and further evidence of a slowdown in consumer spending would imply that interest rates have peaked.

Andrew Sentance, chief economic adviser to the BRC, said: "The Bank was right to announce a pause in its policy of raising interest rates. Indeed, interest rates have probably risen as high as they need to head off the threat of a sustained pick-up in inflation."

The pound endured a roller-coaster ride on the foreign exchanges as the unexpected strength of the production figures briefly sent sterling higher before traders began to switch into the mark after renewed evidence of a revival in the German economy. The pound slumped to a three-month low of DM2.8479 before recovering to close only marginally down at DM2.8046, while the trade weighted index finished just 0.1 lower at 100.1.

The BRC said that the slowdown in the annual rate of like-for-like sales growth reflected higher mortgage costs, holiday spending overseas and a marked reduction in windfall associated spending.

Sales of electrical goods, which rose sharply in June and July, fell back, while clothing sales were also more patchy. London stores suffered as the strong pound made shopping less attractive to foreign visitors.

But the hot summer weather provided a boost to sales of fans and refrigeration products as well as soft drinks, salads and delicatessen foods.

Economists played down the importance of the manufacturing output data, which in part reflected back revisions to the data as well as the overall strength of the economy in early summer. Second-quarter manufacturing output was revised up by a total of 0.6 percentage points, resulting in output showing a 0.3 per cent rise, compared with a previously estimated 0.3 per cent fall.

Overall industrial production also rose by a stronger than expected 0.6 per cent and at an annual rate of 2.3 per cent thanks to a boost from increased gas extraction.

Adam Cole, UK economist at James Capel, said that the revisions would add around 0.1 per cent to second-quarter GDP figures and indicated that "the strength of domestic demand is still fully offsetting any weakness in exports". But Dharshini David, UK economist at HSBC, added: "The manufacturing recovery is not out of danger yet. With industry still fragile these numbers do little to undermine the MPC's implied response to leave interest rates unchanged for the time being."

The producer prices data is also unlikely to cause alarm at the Bank, with economists concluding that there are few signs of any pipeline inflationary pressures despite the recent slide in the pound.

Factory gate prices increased 0.1 per cent in August, although the annual rate of change was unchanged at 1.4 per cent. Input prices also nudged up by a monthly rate of 0.6 per cent, although the index is still 7.9 per cent lower than this time last year. Economists blamed the small rise in raw material prices on an increase in the price of crude oil, metals and imported foods.

City sources blamed the confusion on the Stock Exchange, saying it had failed to allow for the shift in status of British Energy shares. The Stock Exchange denied any culpability, saying that it had sent out a two-page stock situation notice on July 31, and a reminder on August 1. A spokesman said: "It was an unfortunate situation, but it's been resolved fairly quickly. It is very unusual."

British Energy had no comment, but is understood to be dismayed about the disruption to trading, and intends to register its anger in a letter to the Exchange. The company, formed out of a merger of Nuclear Electric and Scottish Nuclear, came to the stock market last summer. Its founding chief executive, Robert Hawley, bowed out in June with an estimated £450,000 payoff.

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Janet Bush, page 29

Confusion halts share deals in British Energy

By JON ASHWORTH AND MICHAEL CLARK

BRITISH ENERGY, the privatised nuclear power generator, is expected to make a formal complaint to the Stock Exchange after trading in its shares was suspended for more than two hours yesterday.

Shares in the company appeared to leap 44 per cent, to 30p, when trading opened, catching brokers and fund managers off guard. In fact, the jump was caused by market-makers factoring in the second 98p instalment on the shares, due to be paid by September 16.

However, some market-makers continued to quote the shares as partly paid yesterday, quoting a spread of 20p to 20p against the 30p-to-30p fully-paid level.

The shares were due to be quoted on a fully-paid basis from yesterday, but with a deferred settlement date.

The Stock Exchange feed that supplies prices was taken down at 8.44am, soon after trading began, but at least seven trades went through at the wrong price.

"One broker told *The Times*: 'I sold a parcel of shares at the 295p level and no one has given me instructions, so far, to unwind the bargain. It was only later I discovered the real price should have been nearer 300p.'

The service resumed at

11am, but information services such as Topic were unable to provide a generally available quote for the rest of the day. The Stock Exchange insisted that any trades booked at the wrong price would be relooked at the correct price.

Similar problems beset Railtrack, which before its second payment became due earlier this year.

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Guinness scandal report 'flawed'

By JON ASHWORTH

THE official report into the 1986 Guinness share support scandal is fundamentally flawed and leaves questions unanswered, sources close to the inquiry said yesterday.

The report, now with the Department of Trade and Industry, focuses on key players such as Ernest Saunders and Gerald Ronson, but ignores thousands of transactions that accompanied the £2.7 billion takeover battle for Distillers. In particular, it fails to address allegations of orchestrated selling of Guinness shares on behalf of Argyll, the drinks group, which mounted an unsuccessful counter-bid for Distillers.

The Guinness report is expected to be published next month. Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, is thought to be intent on seeing that it is published, despite reported high-level opposition.

The government-appointed inspectors, David Donaldson, QC, and Ian Watt, completed an interim report some years ago. Sources say it was flawed because it focused simply on a narrow band of transactions in Guinness shares. There is nothing to indicate that the inspectors subsequently widened their brief.

The inspectors neglected to interview members of the Takeover Panel, and did not investigate allegations of indemnities offered to Argyll supporters. Unnamed City figures and institutions are said to have collaborated in mass selling of Guinness shares on a huge scale. The report is thought to criticise Ehrain Margulies, the former sugar baron who died last month. Companies linked to Mr Margulies received secret payments but he was not charged.

Up to a dozen clients are believed to have left several thousand pounds with Mr Naylor.

The Bank began an investigation two months ago after an approach from the PIA.

The PIA, meanwhile, has suspended the business of Naylor Investment Services, of which Mr Naylor is sole principal.

PIA and Bank freeze adviser

IN A co-ordinated regulatory move, the Bank of England and the Personal Investment Authority have announced on two firms run by a Gloucester financial adviser suspected of carrying out unlicensed deposit-taking (Gavin Lumsden writes).

The Bank has obtained an injunction against Peter Naylor, who trades as Naylor Financial Services and Naylor Investment Services, preventing him from marketing or conducting a deposit-taking business or disposing of his assets.

Up to a dozen clients are believed to have left several thousand pounds with Mr Naylor.

The Bank began an investigation two months ago after an approach from the PIA.

The PIA, meanwhile, has suspended the business of Naylor Investment Services, of which Mr Naylor is sole principal.

Lenders urged to ensure safety net

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

THE Government has urged mortgage lenders to take responsibility for providing an insurance safety net to catch borrowers who fall on hard times.

Hilary Armstrong, Housing Minister, yesterday said state provision was never meant to provide a comprehensive safety net for lenders and insurers to take the lead in ensuring homebuyers have better protection.

It is essential that lenders ensure that borrowers address the question of how they would meet mortgage payments if they fall on hard times. Lenders should strongly encourage borrowers to take out insurance where they need and would benefit from it. It is in their interest to do so. Repossession is expensive, gets the industry a bad name and benefits no one.

Up to 2.5 million homeowners risk repossession because they are not insured against unemployment.

Employment, accident or sickness, according to a recent report by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Only three in ten homebuyers arrange cover so their mortgage can be paid when they are unable to afford the premiums. This is in spite of borrowers getting no state support for the first nine months.

Research shows that most people simply do not know mortgage payment premium insurance (MPPI) exists or, if they do, consider it a waste of money. Although the cost of MPPI has come down by a third since 1995 it remains one of the most expensive forms of insurance. It can cost £25 per month to insure £100 worth of mortgage payment.

A report commissioned by the Council of Mortgage Lenders called on the Government to make MPPI compulsory for borrowers seeking mortgage interest tax relief.

CBI seeks union rethink on European policy

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Confederation of British Industry is to call for a complete overhaul of European social policy in an attempt to limit fresh proposals from Brussels on employment law.

Adair Turner, Director-General of the CBI, will tomorrow tell the TUC in Brighton that the challenge facing Britain over Europe is to develop an approach to employment and the labour market that does not result in high unemployment.

Mr Turner's speech, which is likely to provoke walkouts from some left-wing union leaders, will call for a

change of direction in European social policy. He will say that since 1988 UK unions have broadly endorsed new social legislation from Europe without considering whether it is fully applicable to Britain because they judged that with Conservative Government Brussels was likely to be the only source of such new legal moves.

But with the election of a Labour Government it is now time to reconsider the suitability of legislation put forward by Brussels.

Mr Turner will run the risk of irritating union leaders in his insistence that his call for a fundamental reappraisal of European social policy is in line with the TUC's own thinking.

He will praise trade unions in the UK for going further than their European counterparts in embracing labour market flexibility, citing their full endorsement of the European-level agreement between employers and employees on part-time working, in contrast with the reservations of German trade unions. Although the main focus of his much-awaited speech to the TUC will be on European social policy, Mr Turner is also expected to acknowledge publicly the limited likelihood of the CBI and the TUC reaching agreement on the thorny issue of union recognition.

He will make clear the opposition of business to moves by Labour in office on recognition and the minimum wage, but will commit the CBI to working with the Government to limit what they see as the damage to industry of such proposals.

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Leading article, page 19
TUC reports, page 26

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THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS AT BRIGHTON

Extension of rights sought for employees

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

UNION leaders yesterday demanded an extension of key employment rights to protect employees from the day they start work.

Other extensions to union powers sought by the TUC include recognition of unions where 50 per cent plus one of employees in a workplace demand it and rights at work to apply to all staff regardless of the number of hours worked or form of contract.

John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB, and Bill Morris, leader of the T&G, led the call for an end to the requirement that employees should have worked for two years before they are able to make a claim for unfair dismissal or be entitled to redundancy payments. The qualification period will be an important part of the Govern-

ment's White Paper on fairness at work to be published next year.

At present employees have a number of rights from the first day of employment, such as protection from discrimination on the grounds of race or gender. But the lack of rights over dismissal claims or severance pay until employees have been on the staff for two years has led to many sackings just before the qualifying period, the TUC claims.

Mr Edmonds said: "To dismiss people unfairly is just as wrong whether it happens after two days, or after two months or after two years."

John Monks, General Secretary of the TUC, said on the eve of the Congress that he wanted to see what the White Paper proposed before setting out qualification periods. But both Mr Edmonds and Mr Morris were yesterday adamant that there should be no compromise between the two-year requirement and the demand for day-one rights.

The TUC's official request to the Government on qualification for rights seeks to embrace both positions. It calls for "all rights at work [to] apply to all employees regardless of hours worked, length of service or the form of contracts".

In a strong attack on the Government, Mr Edmonds said: "Don't politicians understand that nowadays some employers are so bloody-minded that if people get employment rights after one year, we would see the introduction of 11-month contracts?"

Tony Burke, the deputy general secretary of the GMB, on Labour's plans to maintain a flexible labour market.

"Many young workers have never even heard of trade unions, let alone been asked to join one."

- Tony Burke, the deputy general secretary of the GMB, on Labour's plans to maintain a flexible labour market.

"Fear and insecurity have been replaced by hope and a boost for the morale of ordinary people. Even West Ham United are playing well."

- Tony Duggins, the President of the TUC, on the election of the Labour Government.

"Don't dream too much, face reality."

- John Monks, General Secretary of the TUC, to a call from CWU representative Ailan Eldred for a more radical agenda.

"You need the patience of Job, the wisdom of Solomon and a bladder able to withstand three-and-a-quarter hours without relief, morning and afternoon."

- Jimmy Knapp, the leader of the RMT, on the requirements for a Congress president.



John Monks urges the TUC to join in dialogue with the Government and business on raising the UK's competitiveness

Monks tells unions to 'seize the moment' and modernise

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

JOHN MONKS, TUC General Secretary, urged Britain's unions yesterday to "seize the moment" of Labour's rise to power and modernise as part of a movement by the Government, employers and unions towards a new industrial partnership.

In his keynote speech at the opening of the TUC's annual conference in Brighton, Mr Monks said unions now stood ready to join a new national dialogue with the Government and business on how to improve the UK's competitive ness and how to make Europe

work best for Britain. He urged Tony Blair, who will address the TUC conference today, to help to push Britain towards a new industrial deal, drawing on his success in modernising the Labour Party: "Help to generate the momentum for the new settlement. If anyone in the UK knows the potential of breaking from past traditions and grasping the new, you do."

He called on Adair Turner, the CBI Director-General, who will speak to the conference tomorrow, to accept that bad employers undermined

good ones: "Recognise that competitiveness comes from skilled and loyal staff enjoying both good conditions and the trust of their employers."

But he said the unions had to change too — to find for themselves a new and constructive place in Mr Blair's new Britain. "Not just what we'd like to get, but where we can play a part. Not just what we want to see — but what we plan to do. And not just what we want others to give — but how we ourselves can contribute. Congress, seize the moment."

Mr Monks welcomed what

the new Government had already achieved, including signing the EU social chapter, establishing the Low Pay Commission to recommend a national minimum wage, promising new laws to give unions legal recognition rights and ending the ban on unions at GCHQ.

But he emphasised the clear differences between the unions and a Labour government, with the Government pledged to govern in the interest of the whole country. He rejected those eager to seize on splits and divisions between the unions and Labour: "If the TUC and the Government were always in agreement, it would only prove that neither of us was doing our job properly."

But while he supported close involvement by employers in a new national dialogue, he sharply criticised some forms of work flexibility embraced by certain companies. Companies needed to be flexible. But the hire and fire culture was not flexibility, just exploitation.

He said: "Employers might want flexible workers. But people at work today need flexible employers. Not the hire and fire, take it or leave it brigade, but the ones who see that choices must be a two-way street, worked out together."

John Lloyd, page 18

Leading article, page 19

Drive to revive membership

By OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE TUC set out an action plan yesterday to reverse its declining membership. Tony Duggins, the President, said the New Unionism recruitment drive was "about our relevance, our credibility and our future".

The union movement will

launch a twin-track campaign to build membership where unions are already active and to spark interest in those areas where jobs are growing but union membership is non-existent.

The fight for new members, which the TUC said needs "urgent action", will be

backed by an academy to teach union organisation skills. The academy, into which the TUC is pumping £1 million, will train young union members to be organisers and will launch in the new year.

Trade union membership

has fallen from half of the

workforce in 1979 to just

under a third now. Many

workers in new industries

ignore unions largely be-

cause there is no tradition

and they are not approached

to join. According to TUC

research, five million work-

ers want to join a union but

have not done so because

there is no presence at their

workplace. The TUC now

has 6.9 million members.

Tony Burke, deputy general

secretary of the Graphical

Paper and Media Union and

head of the New Unionism

Task Group, said that young

workers would be a key re-

cruitment target. "In the UK

only one in five under-25-year-

olds is a union member ...

According to our own report,

Testament of Youth, many

young workers have never

even heard of trade unions.

Let alone been asked to join

one."

Further ahead of its rivals in major online services. According to figures published in June by *Electronic Information Report*, a trade newsletter, AOL already has 8.6 million subscribers. Its nearest rival, the Microsoft Network, is now dwarfed with a mere 2.3 million.

There is also a geographical

dimension to AOL's consolida-

tion. CompuServe, traditional-

ly strong in Europe, has 850,000 European subscriv-

ers, which would now make

AOL the largest online service in Europe. AOL Europe, a

joint venture with Ber-

telmann, the German pub-

lishing company, already has

650,000 subscribers.

AOL whose president is Steve Case, has been promised access to an additional 100,000 Uninet modems that would help to prevent network "traffic jams" as AOL expands. This should ensure that AOL is not embarrassed again as it was earlier this year, when shortly after its introduction of flat-rate monthly pricing, it was forced to credit credits to enraged customers unable to connect to the dial-up service.

By catching CompuServe's

subscribers in its corporate

driftnet, AOL will surge still

further ahead of its rivals in major online services. According to figures published in June by *Electronic Information Report*, a trade newsletter, AOL already has 8.6 million subscribers. Its nearest rival, the Microsoft Network, is now dwarfed with a mere 2.3 million.

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By catching CompuServe's

subscribers in its corporate

driftnet, AOL will surge still

What is the function of the Stock Exchange? To provide a trading floor? Not for at least a decade. To regulate the financial markets? No, that is the role of the SIB, the Bank of England and the self-regulatory organisations and will soon be the job of the super-SIB. So does the exchange catch insider traders? Well, it investigates them and then passes the case on to the Department of Trade and Industry to prosecute. And then the DTI appears to decide it is impossible to prosecute the case. Unfortunately the DTI investigators have to prove a *mens rea*, in that the person dealing not only was in possession of inside information but also dealt in the shares because he or she had the inside information. And you can count on the fingers of a mitten how often these cases can be tried successfully in any given year.

So this leaves the other function of the Stock Exchange — to maintain an orderly market. Well, yesterday it failed to do that in British Energy. The final instalment to be paid on the nuclear electricity company's shares is due next Monday and, as has happened with all privatisations, the market adjusted the price to have dual quotes a week before the event. Only the exchange failed to take account of this, so instead of there being two pages of market-making quotes, there was only one. The result — confusion.

mispricing and anger. The reaction of the exchange to suspend British Energy shares and obliterate all trace of trading for most of yesterday morning, it is not as if the exchange was not warned. A similar problem occurred when the final payment was due on Railtrack shares earlier this year.

British Energy is expected to make a formal complaint about the Stock Exchange's handling of the situation tomorrow. This could open up a can of worms, namely whether the exchange needs to exist in the form that it does. For 200 years the London Stock Exchange has been a focus of trading activity in a financial centre that is the envy of the world. Yesterday's figures from Merrill Lynch Europe, after a few weeks from those of SBC Warburg, show that London-based financial companies are the equal of anybody — even if they are rarely British owned. But electronic markets have shown that you do not need a trading floor for most trading, and the interlinking of many markets often makes it irrelevant whether a share is traded in London, New York or Timbuktu. Regulators have realised that much trading between large companies is on a

caveat emptor basis and constrain themselves to making sure the dealers are properly trained, the firms are properly capitalised and the small investor is not ripped off. The exchange's role in this is to make sure the systems exist to enable this trading to take place efficiently. Yesterday it did not. And if this happens on a regular basis the traders will find someone else to provide the facility and the exchange will become redundant.

Softly, softly for the economy

Fears that the enduring strength of sterling would spell disaster for the manufacturing sector have dominated the economic debate for most of this year. The contrast between the booming high street and weak manufacturing output has revived memories of the "dual economy" that bedevilled Brit-

ain's economic performance throughout the 1980s. Pessimists have even begun muttering that the combination of rising interest rates and strong sterling could tip the whole economy into recession next year.

But the manufacturing sector has so far proved more resilient than the doomsday merchants and even many industrialists have expected. Yesterday's manufacturing output figures again surprised on the upside, with manufacturing output rising at a monthly rate of 0.4 per cent and pushing the annual rate of increase to 1.6 per cent. Some of the increase simply derives from a series of back revisions to the data. But the Office for National Statistics hinted at signs of an underlying improvement, doubling its estimate of the trend in growth for manufacturing output from 1 to 2 per cent.

Nor was the improvement confined to one of the more peripheral sectors of the economy. The highly

export-sensitive engineering sector showed a quarterly improvement of 3.6 per cent compared with the same period last year. The separate trade figures have also stubbornly refused to show the expected collapse in export performance. This is not to say life is rosy for the nation's manufacturers. The spate of profit warnings over the past six months emphasise that exporters have taken the pain of the surge in sterling by cutting profit margins. The forward indicators continue to point to a slowdown in export orderbooks and the data could yet take a turn for the worse.

But with the pound beginning to slide from its summer highs and the Bank of England hinting that the most aggressive phase of rate rises is now over, the outlook for manufacturing is beginning to look distinctly less gloomy. The sector has been hurt but is still very much alive — partly due to the strength of the domestic

economy but also because it is proving far more competitive than when faced with similar problems in the past. If consumer spending — which has been at the heart of the Bank's obsession with overheating — now also continues to ease gently, the economy might yet escape with the fabled "soft landing".

Beckett's law needs to get tough at DTI

There certainly is a new sheriff in town, down at the DTI. Since Margaret Beckett rode into the Victoria Street headquarters, the place has been a hive of activity. Bass's purchase of Carlsberg Tetley and the London Clubs bid for Capital Corporation have been blocked. The merger of Stena and P&O is likely to be given the green light with conditions, and, miracle of miracles, the report following the DTI investigation into Guinness is finally going to be published, only 12 years after the Distillers bid that prompted the inquiry.

As Mrs Beckett is in the spirit of cleaning out the pending tray she inherited from Ian Lang, she might think about putting a fire under investigators in four other DTI inquiries. The investigation into Wace, the pre-press group, has been going on for five-and-a-half years, and nobody can work out what it is about. The Mirror Group inquiry was held up by the criminal trials and is now moving forward four years and three months after it was launched. Investigators have been looking at the finance company Chancery for four years and hotels group Queens Moat House for nearly as long.

These investigations are expensive, slow and largely fruitless. Rarely do they expose fraud and, if they don't, the main sanction is to try to have the directors of the companies disqualified as directors, a process that is also expensive and slow. Sheriff Beckett should turn her attention to how the DTI might become more effective in rooting out corporate misdemeanours.

Family fortunes

I AM indebted to Professor Sue Birley of Imperial College, who, at the behest of Grant Thornton, the accountants, studied family businesses and found that most are "highly professional and commercially aware". Among her conclusions are that most families who run businesses disagreed with the idea that family members should automatically be entitled to a job in the firm. Did she ask Stephen and Andy Rubin at Pentland?

Fairey puts expansion on hold

By JENNIFER HANAWALD

FAIERY GROUP, the industrial electronics and engineering company that has grown steadily through acquisitions over the past two years, yesterday appeared to rule out further purchases.

John Poulter, chief executive, said: "We are in a natural period of consolidation for the acquisitions we made in the first half of 1997." But he added that in the longer term the company would "continue to develop in sensible ways to generate profit and shareholder value".

Fairey lifted pre-tax profits to £23.96 million (£21.33 million) in the six months to June 30, despite the impact of currency fluctuations, which hit profits by £1.4 million. Sales rose to £153.7 million (£118.4 million). Earnings rose 7 per cent to 16.5p a share and the interim dividend is 3.05p (2.85p).

Sales in the electronics sector were up 47 per cent at £15.1 million including acquisitions.

The electrical power division's sales were down 22 per cent at £8.2 million. Sales in aerospace and filtration rose 1 per cent and 3 per cent respectively.

Blue Circle plays down fears over Malaysia growth

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

BLUE CIRCLE Industries, the cement group, yesterday sought to play down worries about growth prospects in Malaysia, one of its main markets, and said it was still looking for acquisition opportunities in the Far East.

Concern about the possible impact on the company of the postponement of several big building projects in Malaysia overshadowed its interim results announcement and helped to send its shares 7p lower, to 35p.

Among the projects that the Malaysian Government said it would postpone last week, after a run on the currency and a stock market plunge, are the controversial \$6.2 billion (£3.9 million) Bakun hydro-electric dam in the Borneo jungle, a huge highway and what would have been the world's longest building.

Keith Orrell-Jones, chief executive, said he thought that a recession in Malaysia was unlikely, but he does see a slowdown in the rate of growth. He added: "It would have to be a dramatic change in growth to impact cement



Tugendhat: buying plans

said it was still keen to make acquisitions. Its gearing is at 18 per cent and could be raised to 45 per cent with £300 million of bank borrowings. It is keenest on buying building materials companies in the Far East and South America.

The company made a pre-tax profit of £116.9 million in the six months to June 30, from £16.3 million a year earlier, after taking an exceptional provision of £25 million to cover the cost of an agreement with UK employees reached in May. The provision covers redundancy costs across Blue Circle Cement UK's operations and asset write-offs associated with works upgrades.

The group's heating division saw its operating profit increase 18 per cent, to £20.9 million, while the bathrooms division — where it owns Armitage Shanks and Italy's Ceramic Dolomite — saw a drop in operating profit of 10 per cent, to £11.5 million, hit by a marked slowdown in the Italian market. A 4.65p (4.25p) deemed Foreign Income dividend will be paid on November 24.

Tempus, page 28

British Vita advances in first half

By OUR CITY STAFF

BRITISH VITA, the polymers and fibres group, lifted pre-tax profits 21 per cent to £32 million in the first half, in spite of a fall in turnover because of currency fluctuations (Jennifer Hanawald writes).

Sales of continuing operations were down 8.9 per cent, to £46.1 million from £50.8 million.

Frank Eaton, deputy chief executive, said the fall in turnover, which hit all divisions, was due to the translational effects of foreign currency, but added that the impact on pre-tax profit was minimal, thanks to a corresponding fall in the cost of raw materials.

Earnings rose to 9.6p a share from 7.7p and the interim dividend was raised to 4.25p a share from 4p. The shares fell 3p to 247p.

Eurotunnel enjoys fast-track recovery

By OUR CITY STAFF

EUROTUNNEL's recovery from the fire that damaged the tunnel last November continued last month, with a 25 per cent rise in traffic on Le Shuttle trains, after a 29.5 per cent rise in July.

In the first eight months of the year, more than 1.34 million vehicles used Le Shuttle, little changed from the first eight months of last year, when it carried 1.39 million, despite the reduced service in the first five months of the year in the wake of the fire in November. A record number of vehicles for a single day, 10,986, were carried on August 29, the company said, and Le Shuttle's cross-channel market share is now more than 40 per cent.

At its peak before last year's fire its market share had risen to about 45 per cent. Eurostar passenger traffic between Paris, London and

Builder sees calm revival in housing

By CHRIS AYRES

WILOM BOWDEN, one of Britain's biggest house-builders, says that prices in southern England are stabilising.

The company, which develops residential and commercial property, said it did not expect an unsustainable boom. The average price of its properties had risen by only 4 per cent over the past six months.

David Wilson, chairman, said: "The boom in the South has levelled out and the market is now less frothy and more sustainable. I do not think the market will get out of control."

The company has sold nearly 1,500 homes in the past half year, at an average £113,000. In the half to June 30, pre-tax profits rose to £29.1 million, from £17.3 million, on turnover of £231 million (£147 million). Earnings per share were 21.2p (2.3p). The interim dividend is 3.3p (3p).

P&G's wait, page 29

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Taken at the flood: P&O hopes the current at the Department of Trade and Industry will prove favourable as it attempts to compete with the Channel Tunnel operators

P&O awaits the DTI tide

Life has not been kind to P&O Ferries recently. Its Dover to Calais market, once one of the biggest UK money-spinners, has been wrecked by a state-sponsored predator that trades while technically bust.

Its only escape route — joining forces with its arch-rival, Stena Line — has been blocked by painstaking government scrutiny leaving it exposed to another summer of brutal competition from the Channel Tunnel.

But now, after what is set to become the longest-running DTI inquiry of the decade, things are moving. Ministerial sources say that Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, is preparing to give the formal green light by the end of this month.

Today P&O is meeting officials at the Office of Fair Trading to discuss conditions. The formula that is likely to emerge from the meeting is a custom-made inflation-linked system

which will, in effect, establish a recommended retail price system for ferry journeys.

P&O and Stena Line are also likely to be asked to give more ticketing booths and boarding space to rivals Sea France, HoverSpeed and Sally, and provide other assurances to the DTI that they will not abuse their market.

Both ferry operators are likely to agree at once. They say their main concern is that prices will fall through the floor under competition from the Channel Tunnel, and any safety net would be welcome.

Eurotunnel has proved to be the competitor from hell. It defies normal market forces. With debts of £8.76 billion and net liabilities of £871 million it should theoretically be dead.

The talks come as P&O's cross-Channel service is almost on its knees, having only ten years ago stood accused of being the most expensive mile-for-mile travel in the world.

In an attempt to fight compe-

Fraser Nelson says the fortune of the proposed merger with Stena is bound up in the affairs of state

tion from the Channel Tunnel, it reduced its peak-time return ticket to match *Le Shuttle*'s brochure price of £165 — a 58 per cent decline on last year. The five ferries it ran from Dover to Calais each day have been carrying fewer and fewer passengers. Stena Line has been suffering from the same problem.

The logic from their Dover to Calais merger is to cut three of the nine daily services and share the administrative burden. The new company, to be called P&O Stena Lines, would run the Dover to Calais passenger service, and the freight services between Newhaven and Dieppe, and Dover and Zeebrugge.

By not competing, they say

they will be able to run a lean, mean shuttle service that leaves Dover every 45 minutes — billing itself as a more frequent operator. Drivers, they say, will be able to pull up at any moment confident of an imminent departure. The idea, both insist, is to save money and not increase ticket fees.

Analytic agrees that if P&O and Stena Line were to raise prices it would amount to commercial suicide. With hardly any competitive advantage beyond cheap duty-free drink, undercutting *Le Shuttle* is seen as their only option.

The DTI, however, has had reservations that the merger may concentrate too much of the cross-Channel market in too few hands and pave the

way for a cartel between ship owners and Channel Tunnel operators.

Part of the negotiations that will take place today will be devoted to making sure the price-fixing system would leave them powerless to exploit such a position.

P&O has told Mrs Beckett that its problem can be solved by reducing the phenomenal costs of running a ferry. The chance to reduce its £300 million-a-year costs, it says, would be enough to restore its chances of competing against *Le Shuttle* without any ticket increases.

Each ship costs between £14 million and £17 million a year to run, through wages for a swathe of staff both at sea and on land in addition to heavy maintenance, cleaning and safety costs.

If it does not have to compete against Stena Line, it could dispatch three ferries to another operation and save some £70 million a year. It costs

little to carry passengers. Those willing to walk on are charged less than £10 to cross the Channel — an offer which has proved popular with Kent students who are able to make the journey with the sole intention of buying two bottles of gin. Savings can be recovered at the duty-free bar, and they need spend only 20 minutes on French soil.

The opportunity to offer "boozie cruises" gives the ferries a distinct competitive advantage over *Le Shuttle*. Yet the lucrative duty-free market is set to be abolished in two years' time — wiping out another main subsidy for ferry fares.

It will no longer be possible to enjoy a cross-Channel drinking session for less money than a night out in Ashford — and travellers will no longer able to use their time on the ferry to load the boot of their car with cheap beer.

This has not escaped the DTI's attention. It has been feared that, if the merger is waved through without any price conditions, both operators would be able to increase prices when proceeds from duty-free vanish.

Although the signs are good, P&O is still not claiming victory. "We think we have a tremendous chance of getting through, but the DTI's recent decisions have surprised many of us and even on the glancing industrial logic we cannot be sure."

If the worst happens and the link-up is rejected, analysts say that P&O will simply walk away, phasing down over five years. One leading P&O analyst concluded: "It has no moral duty to service the Dover to Calais line."

The P&O/Stena plan is not the most complicated merger in the world. Changes will be made to only one route, and both companies will compete on all other cross-Channel passenger routes.

But as ferries continue to be marginalised — by both the Channel Tunnel and cheap flights — the conditions imposed on P&O are likely to be used as a blueprint to judge the consolidation in the industry that is certain to follow.

Windfall poll cheers Bank

If there is a lesson for economists from the extraordinary events in Britain over the past week, it is that predicting people's behaviour is virtually impossible. Dramatic shifts in the way society thinks and acts are the random element that no econometric model has been able to incorporate. In the 1980s, nobody anticipated the boom unleashed by financial deregulation. Now the question is how consumers will react to building society windfalls.

It is worth noting that, in spite of the potential injection of unprecedented spending power into the economy, Britain's savings rate has remained above 10 per cent. In 1988, it fell to 4 per cent. Remember too that windfalls that are being saved do not figure in the national accounts, being deemed, bizarrely, to be an identical amount of wealth whether held in mutual or demutualised companies.

The active choice to save windfalls provides a fascinating insight into today's consumer psychology and yet it does not appear in the national statistics.

Positive grist all this does but windfalls cannot be dismissed entirely as a threat. There is a lot of money saved in highly liquid form and, even if consumers keep their shares, they may be tempted to splash out from disposable income, knowing they have that cushion. Let us see Christmas holiday bookings before becoming too complacent.

Even if the windfall threat seems less dramatic than it once was, the MPC is still left with crucial judgments on real sales in general. It can, of course, be argued that the very fact that the windfall effect has been weaker than many expected is proof of how strong the underlying trend has been. In fact, the first evidence has emerged that sales are losing momentum under the weight of higher interest rates but it is early days.

Even if the economy slows, behaviour on windfalls is hard to predict. Some may liquidate their shares to maintain their spending power. Others will be more inclined to keep them saved as a hedge against greater economic uncertainty. Blessed will be the economist, or popular psychologist, who can anticipate which will prevail.



JANET
BUSH

Time heals

THE rehabilitation of Jim Slater continues apace. Some of us, should his name arise, may think of the collapse of his Slater Walker empire. Words like "asset-striper" may come to mind. Some may recall the keenness of the Singaporean Government to extradite him in 1976. Old men forget, however, and to a younger generation he is an investment guru.

Slater is hosting a brace of educational conferences shortly, in association with the worthy Proshare organisation and Barclays Bank's

private stock-broking arm. Neither see anything incongruous about linking their names with Slater's, so I suppose rehabilitation must now be complete. Barclays' Justin Urquhart Stewart says: "He's built up a reputation for someone who has been able to be a successful investor." Proshare's Terry Bond says: "We regard what he's doing as being the correct approach for educating the private investor." Neither are taking a fee, so all the financial risk lies with Slater. The maximum turnout is about 400 people each time, in which case he would be in the money.

WHICH City institution is advertising for a load of derivatives staff? ING Barings, which wants analysis, a confirmed negotiator, whatever that is, and a supervisor. This last will "ensure that derivatives trades are processed in an accurate and timely manner, and within the policies, procedures and controls set down by the organisation". Interviews for this post will presumably be particularly gruelling. And no one called Barings need bother to apply.

Ripe moment

"It's Guinness for goodness' sake. It always takes ages to settle"



signings that have gone largely unnoticed recently, Panmure Gordon has hired the chief financial officer from the South African pineapple peeler, Andrew Hawkins, at Chatterhouse until last year and a brief career in the fruit trade becomes a director of corporate finance at Panmure. This brings to six the number of senior appointments there, including two salesmen from Nomura, this month. I am told there are more to come.

Ruche hour

I AM impressed with the enterprise of Hoare Govett who went out last week for the stag night of Neil Collingridge, director of cor-

porate finance, ahead of his wedding at the weekend. He was promised £400, proceeds to cancer research, if he travelled back by Tube from the West End to Kenting wearing a ballerina's tutu and one of those plastic pairs of false breasts they sell to tourists. He did. He was also promised a further £100 for charity if he persuaded me to write about it. And I did. But just this once.

A JEANS manufacturer has put up posters featuring a be-jewelled female leg ending in a stiletto heel stamping firmly on a nude male torso. The headline: "Put the boot in." Very tasteful. Anyone care to speculate how long the ad would stay up if the boot were on the other foot, so to speak, and the sex roles reversed?

Golden days

WILL CARLING has found a lucrative niche persuading credulous executives that success on the sports field can somehow rub off on them and be translated into success in business. Now Steve Redgrave, about the only surefire gold medalist we have still competing, is heading down the same route. The rower, who found further success in the Alps at the weekend in the coxed fours, has linked up with Galileo, a marketing consultancy founded by Simon Clegg, until the end of last year a managing director at Hoare Govett. (And no relation, strange coincidence

notwithstanding, of the Simon Clegg who is secretary of the British Olympic Association.)

Redgrave will be addressing a gathering of businessmen at Henley-on-Thames next month. They are being threatened with bromides such as "last year's performance will not win this year's competition". Perhaps he will lift his game into a new league on the day, as I believe the sports commentators say. Or perhaps the businessmen will have to content themselves with meeting a real live sportsman and chatting about the Olympics and all that. And perhaps this will suffice.

MARTIN WALLER



Steve Redgrave will explain his vision of success in business

WHY SETTLE FOR A LEVEL PLAYING-FIELD?

infringe v. 1 hair fashionably combed forward (see Beatles) 2 Rugby Football obstruct someone accidentally on purpose 3 to break a law or a right

ovation n. 1 total lack of cheering or clapping (see Synchronized Swimming) 2 contract whereby a creditor at the request of the debtor agrees to take another person as debtor in place of the original debtor

placing v. 1 a quota of flat fish 2 horses, dogs etc, in winning order (usu. foll. by payout) 3 act of placing shares on behalf of clients

court n. 1 place to buy strawberries and cream 2 treat with flattering attention (esp. clients) 3 where justice is administered

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Modest falls in thin trading

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1997 High	Low	Company	Price	Yld	%	PE
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES						
450	470	Ashford Distillers	420	1	2.1	12.2
532	540	Bulmers (M7)	400	1	2.1	12.2
1042	1052	Cochrane Distillers	46	0	0.0	12.2
1252	1262	Duchess Distillers	50	0	0.0	12.2
1421	1431	Edmundston Distillers	587	1	3.2	12.2
260	265	Hopwood Dist	550	0	0.0	12.2
325	335	Maltex Coop	233	0	0.0	12.2
1079	1089	Matthews Distillers	129	0	0.0	12.2
1094	1094	McEwan & Son	24	0	0.0	12.2
1204	1204	McEwan & Son	1471	3	3.1	12.2

BANKS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price	Yld	%	PE
BANKS						
1231	1231	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
571	571	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
1251	1251	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
1252	1252	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
1253	1253	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
1254	1254	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
1255	1255	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
1256	1256	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
1257	1257	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
1258	1258	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
1259	1259	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
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1261	1261	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
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1271	1271	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
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1342	1342	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2
1343	1343	Barclays - Amex	279	0	2.5	17.2</

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How can
victims
fight
back?
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LAW

- BREATHE EASY 35
- RISE IN SIF FEES 35

More restrictions on the press? Yes, say Neil Addison and Tim Lawson-Cruttenden; no, says a QC

How can victims fight back?

The death of Diana, Princess of Wales, has reopened the debate on possible curbs on the press. But the debate's focus is on a possible privacy law — which misses the point.

The real problem is harassment and the inability of victims to curb intrusive photographers. Proper journalism may involve breaches in privacy in the legitimate public interest, but there is no legitimate public interest in anyone being subjected to obsessive hounding by photographers.

Before new legislation is introduced, it would be worth waiting to see whether the new Protection from Harassment Act can be used to deal with this problem. The Act was introduced to deal with the highly publicised stalking problem but has the potential to cover a wide range of situations including intrusive journalism. Last March the Princess was reported as hoping that the Act would help to curb some of the excesses of intrusive photographers. It is perhaps part of her tragedy that on August 30 crucial parts of the Act had still not been brought into force.

The Act creates two criminal offences: a summary offence of causing harassment, alarm and distress on two occasions, which carries a potential sentence of six months' imprisonment, and a more serious offence of causing fear of violence on two occasions, carrying a potential sentence of five years' imprisonment. The Act provides a defence that the actions complained of were "reasonable". It is likely

that a legitimate press photographer acting in accordance with the journalists' code of conduct would always be acting reasonably, but the type of photographers who chased the Princess on motorcycles or who took photographs of Cherie Blair in her nightie would certainly not be acting "reasonably".

These offences came into force on June 16 but there are difficulties in their enforcement. To arrest the alleged harasser, the police must be able to prove beyond reasonable doubt that two separate incidents of harassment occurred. That is not easy unless the police officer has an individual personal involvement in a particular case. In the case of harassment by journalists-photographers there is also a natural caution on the part of the police, who want to avoid accusations of press censorship. Consequently, the criminal parts of the Act will probably not be very effective in dealing with intrusive press photographers.

In this respect, the Act's more relevant part is Section 3, which relates to injunctions but which has not been brought fully into force. It makes harassment a tort and allows courts to grant injunctions to prevent it.

However, this on its own does not particularly improve the existing law because injunctions to prevent harassment have been obtainable since a 1995 case, *Burris v Azizani*. The problem is enforcing the injunctions.

Breach of an injunction,



including an anti-harassment injunction, is punishable as a contempt of court. But police have power neither to enforce an injunction nor to arrest anyone breaking any of the injunction's terms. So all too often injunctions can be ignored by harassers and stalkers. The consultation exercise undertaken before the Act came into force highlighted this as a major problem in dealing with harassing behaviour.

The Act therefore introduced the unique idea of making breach of an anti-harassment injunction a criminal offence punishable with up to five years' jail. This will give the police the power to arrest an offender when an anti-harassment injunction is breached. Also, anyone involved in encouraging the harasser (including news editors who bought their pictures) could potentially be prosecuted as an aider and abettor. The Government plans to bring this part of the Act into force next month.

Making breach of injunctions a criminal offence may be unprecedented in English law but is common in many other jurisdictions. Section 17 of Canada's Criminal Code, for example, makes breach of any court order a criminal offence and there are similar provisions in the laws of most American states.

In California local authorities and police have successfully co-operated to use public nuisance injunctions to curb criminal gangs terrorising neighbourhoods.

One of the advantages of proceeding by injunctions in the first instance is that the arguments as to whether the alleged harasser is acting reasonably or not can be properly explored by the civil court and a judgment made balancing the respective rights of the alleged harasser and the alleged victim. Unlike a criminal trial, which concentrates on whether a person's past actions were illegal, a civil court can look at the more straightforward question of whether behaviour is acceptable and should be allowed to continue. The police are merely enforcing a court decision instead of making the initial judgment themselves.

Neil Addison, a barrister, and Tim Lawson-Cruttenden, a solicitor-advocate, are co-authors of Blackstone's Guide to the Protection from Harassment Act 1997. Price £14.95.

In March this year, I represented Diana, Princess of Wales, in industrial tribunal proceedings in Croydon brought by a former employee who was claiming unfair dismissal. I saw the Princess in conference and she decided not to attend the hearing.

A large number of journalists (not previously known for their interest in employment law) were present inside and outside the tribunal in the hope that she would appear. On leaving the building after the case was settled, I found it a disturbing, and puzzling, experience to be surrounded and jostled by dozens of photographers taking hundreds of pictures of the representatives and advisers of the Princess getting into a taxi and driving off.

I would be very surprised if any of those photographs was ever published. Perhaps some of the photographers hoped that the Princess's barrister or solicitor might punch one of them on the nose, and so create a story. To live under that pressure constantly must be intolerable. But does the law need to be amended to confer greater protection on public figures to protect them from the press?

English law already provides a remedy against the sort of harassment for which paparazzi journalists are responsible if it takes place in this country. Last year, the Princess of Wales obtained an injunction from the High Court against specific photographers to stop them from harassing her. The legal basis for her claim, the law of nuisance, was weakened earlier this year by a House of Lords decision — but that is academic because of the new Protection from Harassment Act 1997. This legislation makes it a criminal offence, punishable by imprisonment, for a person knowingly and unreasonably to pursue "a course of conduct which amounts to harassment of another". The Act also enables victims to seek the civil remedies of an injunction and damages. We will need to watch carefully how the Act is applied in practice (not all of it is yet in force). But the content of the new statute appears to address competing interests fairly and to provide effective remedies.

The harsh reality is that our law cannot, in practice, control the behaviour of journalists and photographers in France (a country which, in any event, has some of the strictest privacy laws in Europe). It has been suggested that newspaper editors should be required not to publish paparazzi pictures, so deterring such photographers from intruding into, and endangering, the lives of others abroad.

This is unrealistic. The paparazzi would be only mildly inconvenienced by the loss of the market in the United Kingdom for pictures

which have a worldwide appeal. But it is also unsustainable in principle. Are we really to impose a statutory ban on photographs being published in the United Kingdom because of the circumstances in which they were obtained, even when the photographs were taken in a public place, and when the material may be seen by anyone with access to CNN television or a magazine such as *Paris Match*?

Nor is the case made out for enactment of a general right to privacy, prohibiting the publication of true information which concerns a matter which the individual wishes to keep confidential. The United Kingdom press, with editors subject to powerful laws relating to contempt of court, obscenity, breach of confidence, trespass, and libel, is one of the most strictly regulated in the Western world. There are already legal remedies for most serious invasions of privacy.

The press is also subject to the jurisdiction of the Press Complaints Commission (PCC), a self-regulating authority which works effectively to apply a code which prohibits intrusions into, and the publication of matters relating to, a person's private life except where this can be justified in the public interest.

Whether the public interest in a story outweighs the privacy of an individual is a difficult and sensitive issue. Other than in extreme circumstances, the law should leave such questions to be resolved by a self-regulating body composed of people with experience of the media as well as independent persons, rather than the courts.

Statutory regulation is unnecessary in this context for a further reason. The Government plans to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into domestic law. Article 8 guarantees the right to private life. But any complaint about an invasion of privacy needs to be considered by reference also to Article 10, which protects freedom of expression.

Maintaining a proper balance between these competing interests is not easy. Once the Convention is incorporated, the courts will be able to consider, on specific facts, whether the common law, and the rulings of the PCC, provide adequate safeguards, having regard to the importance of free speech.

Hard cases make bad law. The very worst type of law is that conceived as an emotional response to tragic events. Politicians should resist the temptation to legislate as a response to the death of the Princess.

The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.



COUNSEL
DAVID
PANNICK QC

Solicitors advance

CITY lawyers are used to American firms invading their territory by establishing UK practices and poaching high-flying British partners. But last week they began a new invasion — of the courts.

Arthur Marriott, QC, the British head of the New York firm Debevoise & Plimpton's London arbitration unit, has become the first of two solicitors to be appointed part-time deputy High Court judges.

Mr Marriott and Lawrence Collins, QC, Herbert Smith's head of litigation and arbitration, joined the elite band of 200 barrister deputy High Court judges. Their appointments as the first practising solicitors qualified to sit as judges in the High Court mark a second landmark for both men.

Earlier this year they became the first solicitors to be invited to take silk — a move that paved the way for last week's appointments, which

are by invitation only and, according to the Lord Chancellor's Department, are made from among the ranks of the most experienced and able practitioners". The two join Mr Justice Sachs, a full-time High Court judge, as the High Court's only solicitor judges.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, said last week that he wanted to "open up the ranks of the higher judiciary".

Last respects

A SOMBRE atmosphere prevailed in London's legal square mile last week. Befitting the mood of the nation in the run-up to the Princess of Wales's funeral on Saturday, Union Flags fluttered at half-mast above the Royal Courts of Justice in The Strand and at the Law Society's headquarters in Chancery Lane. The Inns of Court were quiet, as they usually are at this time of the year. The Lord Chancellor

also advised courts sitting on Saturday to observe the one minute's silence.

Open season

THE new Open University first law course, set up with the College of Law, looks like being a hit not just with UK students but also with those on the Continent, for whom places have been specifically reserved.

Dr Gary Slapper, the programme's new director, says registrations are rising so quickly that the course may also be run in Paris, Zurich and Brussels. "OU students usually go on to exercise great influence in their chosen fields," he says, "and that seems likely by law." The first course is due to start in February. For details, phone 01908 653449.

50 years on

THE Chief Justice of India, Mr Justice J.S. Verma, will be expanding on the Indian legal experience in the 50 years since independence in a lecture at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in Russell Square, London tonight.

Lord Woolf, the Master of the Rolls, will introduce his judicial colleague at the lecture, which has been jointly organised by the institute and the Society for Advanced Legal Studies in celebration of 50 years of independence. Fifty years under the rule of law: The Indian Experience is open to all and starts at 5.30.

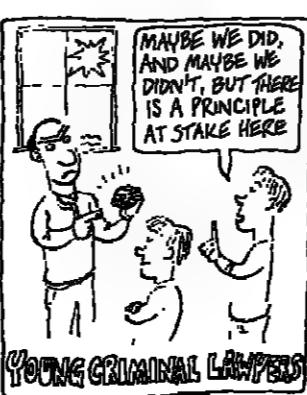
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Slapper: registrations rising

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PROPERTY

To £55,000

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EMPLOYMENT LAW

IDS Brief is looking for a lawyer to join the team researching and writing on employment law for the fortnightly journal and a range of handbooks used by personnel managers, unions, lawyers and tribunals. IDS Brief is the legal department of Incomes Data Services, the UK's leading independent employment research organisation.

Applicants should have studied employment law at least to degree level, and should have excellent writing skills. A demonstrable interest in employment law is essential and practical experience would be a distinct advantage. Applicants must be self-starters, able to work to deadlines as part of a small team. Basic familiarity with word processing is necessary, and interpersonal skills are important as the job involves answering legal enquiries from subscribers.

Starting salary will depend on qualifications and experience, but will be in the range £17,150 to £20,150 plus bonus with five weeks' holiday.

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Your letter should if possible include daytime and home telephone numbers and must reach us by Monday, 22nd September.

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It is our intention to hold interviews in the week beginning 27 October 1997.

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Rises and falls in the housing market have brought problems for solicitors. Now they have some good news about claims from lenders who lost out

Wanda Barry welcomes a ruling that solicitors cannot be made responsible for lenders' losses

The revival of the property market brings chaste memories for many solicitors. In the late 1980s, when the market collapsed, many building societies and others who had lent enthusiastically in the boom years were left unable to recover sums due under their mortgages when borrowers defaulted.

This sparked a flood of claims against solicitors as lenders sought alternative means of recovering their losses. Various adverse court rulings left the profession feeling that it was being made the scapegoat by an industry all too eager to lend to almost anyone who could fill in an application form, on the basis that property prices would continue to rise. If a borrower defaulted, the mortgaged property could be sold to recover the debt.

But a recent Court of Appeal decision in *National Home Loans Corporation v Giffen Couch & Archer* has, for the time being, put an end to hundreds of actions pending in the courts and lifted a multimillion-pound bill for the Solicitors Indemnity Fund (SIF).

The case concerned the information that solicitors should have provided about their client-borrowers to the mortgage company. National Home Loans Corporation said that its solicitors had not informed it that the borrowers, to whom it had offered a loan by way

Risk returns to its rightful owner

of remortgage, were in arrears with their existing mortgage.

NHL had not known about the arrears because it had not carried out the usual inquiries. In the late 1980s, NHL adopted a "self-certification" policy under which it allowed borrowers to sign a declaration that they were not in arrears with their existing mortgage and did not obtain independent confirmation. It was a policy aimed at increasing market share.

The borrowers defaulted and NHL eventually realised its security was suffering a loss because of the fall in the value of the property. It sued for and recovered that loss from the solicitors, who were found negligent in not reporting the arrears.

At the original hearing, although the judge accepted that the solicitors had complied with NHL's written instructions, he found them in breach of a wider, general duty to report the arrears. He found that

NHL's self-certification policy was not negligent, although it might have been imprudent.

The decision created widespread concern within the profession. Its effect was that solicitors could not rely on the lender's written instructions to identify matters that needed to be reported. Even if they compiled, they could be held liable for not reporting facts that the lender had not identified as being relevant.

Solicitors had to place themselves in the position of a lender to decide what might be relevant to a lending decision. However, solicitors cannot be expected to know, beyond matters of title, what a lender might consider relevant.

One of the ironies of the judgment was that if, in performing this exercise, the solicitors placed themselves in the position of the imprudent, albeit not negligent, lender, as

in this case, they would be found liable to the lender; solicitors became underwriters of the losses suffered by lenders who adopted risky lending policies, in order to increase their market share.

The Court of Appeal has now reversed the decision, finding that the judge had overlooked the principle that the extent of the duty of a solicitor depends on the terms of the retainer. Any implied duty must be related to what the solicitor has been instructed to do.

NHL provided detailed instructions specifying the things it wanted to know. NHL, as an experienced commercial lender, was best placed to instruct its solicitors on any facts it considered relevant to its decision to lend.

NHL had made no inquiry about the conduct of the borrowers' existing mortgage and, therefore, it was not a matter that could be said to have been relevant to the decision.

The Court of Appeal decision is a

victory for common sense. It recognises that solicitors are not lenders and it has, quite properly, restored to the lender responsibility for investigating the financial position of the borrower and for informing its solicitors of factors it considers relevant to its lending decision. What may be relevant to one lender will not necessarily be relevant to another, as lenders adopt different policies and market different products.

The decision brings to a halt the substantial number of pending actions brought by NHL and other lenders on the same allegation, and comes as good news to solicitors. Hopefully, it will mark the beginning of the end of the bombardment of claims by lenders against solicitors as lenders face up to the hard, but obvious, fact that as commercial organisations, they must bear responsibility for the losses they incurred at the end of the property boom. In reality such losses were a result of risky lending policies, economic hardship suffered by borrowers and the property market crash.

The Court of Appeal's message could not have been more timely as, after a brief abandonment, some lenders begin again to offer self-certified loans and loans to those with poor credit histories.

• The author is a solicitor with Mills & Reeve.

Paying attention to negligence

Litigation against professionals has increased, reports Edward Fennell

Bad news has been greeting solicitors arriving home from their holidays — their contributions to the Solicitors Indemnity Fund (SIF) must rise sharply. The fund provides compulsory insurance cover for the profession and many firms are having to increase their contributions by more than 50 per cent in order to meet a multimillion-pound shortfall.

But the solicitors are the only group to face growing claims over professional negligence and there is now an increasingly high profile niche practice for lawyers acting for (and against) other professionals caught up in these cases. Paul Haggatt of Salmon Burges, a Bristol firm, believes that solicitors have come rather later into the firing line. He says: "Accountants went through a difficult time in the early Nineties and so did valuers. Now it's the time for the solicitors."

Mr Haggatt normally acts on behalf of plaintiffs in these cases but colleagues elsewhere in the firm act for defendants. Most of the best-known professional negligence practitioners are defendant-based and usually their work is linked to insurance practices. It is the insurance funds which, as the SIF case illustrates, pick up the tab for a professional's mistake and they are determined not to be taken for a ride.

Chris Lowney, an insurance specialist with Fishburn Boxer says: "I wouldn't suggest that the professions have become more incompetent. But in the aftermath of the recession there was a shotgun approach by plaintiffs who had suffered a loss. They were keen to sue everyone in sight."

Fishburn Boxer operates as the nominated lawyer for the RIBA Insurance Scheme, the architects' equivalent of the SIF. Mr Lowney's experience is that

when a building deal, for example, goes wrong, the plaintiff will move against all the professionals — architects, surveyors, valuers and engineers — and then sit back and let them argue it out between themselves.

Identifying negligence is no easy task, so it is no wonder that demand for lawyers has multiplied in the corporate field. As Mr Lowney points out, however, there is no highly active "plaintiff bar" in the UK (as there is in the US) and the legal aid system tends to put barriers in front of what might be regarded as "trivial cases" launched by individuals. Mr Lowney says: "So far we have been saved from the worst excesses of the American experience."

Even so, many lawyers involved in this work will admit that the commercial pressures under which professionals work today have played a big part in the growth of litigation. John Hall, an insurance specialist

with Cameron McKenna, acknowledges that in the field of valuation, there is a lot of "sloppy work". However, the rise of the property market from the 1970s onwards meant that these shortcomings were not exposed until the property crash of the early 1990s. Similarly, the competition for conveyancing work among solicitors meant that corners were cut in the early Nineties, with the inevitable consequences now seen in the SIF's shortfall in funds.

But as Julian Randall of Barlow Lyde and Gilbert, probably the leading firm nationally in professional negligence, points out, the expectations placed on professionals to "get it right" are sometimes unreasonable. "If a fraudster is determined to deceive his accountant it is very hard to stop him. And yet if the company then goes bust the accountant is expected to carry the can."

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The substantial legal team within this well-known UK bank now seeks an additional litigator with good working and practical knowledge of High Court/Court of Appeal procedure, an ability to deal with different stages of litigation and an aptitude for researching cases and often complex points of law. There is opportunity to work on very broad range of litigation matters in an in-house team. As this is a large department, support and back up are exceptional. Legal executives considered. Ref: T12148.G.

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL

2 to 5 Years Qualified

A major US firm with significant presence in London, (over twenty five countries) and particular strengths on the finance and corporate side is actively recruiting lawyers to handle acquisitions and disposals, investment fund work, issues and privatisations. Salaries are much higher than those offered by UK firms and are on a level with New York. The practice will look for candidates from top regional firms as well as the City. Exciting opportunity. Ref: T12152.E.

BANKING

2 to 6 Years Qualified

Sydney Having already successfully recruited a number of solicitors from leading London and other international law firms, this top five Australian practice with over 150 partners is seeking three further assistants to handle general banking, project finance and capital markets work. The practice is regarded as one of the premier banking practices and acts for governments, banks and blue chip corporations on transactions throughout the Southern Hemisphere. Ref: T11225.D.

NON-CONTENTIOUS CONSTRUCTION

HKS Partnership

Hong Kong Established office of a leading City firm now requires a senior solicitor with at least five year's post qualification experience of non-contentious construction and proven marketing skills which are required to lead and develop the construction team based in Hong Kong. The firm envisages partnership within a very short period of time. You are required to be admitted in Hong Kong to due course. Ref: T12057.C.

INSOLVENCY

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Sydney An upsurge in the number of insolvency transactions across the country has meant that this top 10 City firm now seeks a further junior insolvency lawyer. Both those with contentious and non-contentious experience would be of interest and the firm encourages applicants from those with smaller firm backgrounds. The department excels in its very successful training programme and working environment. Ref: T6783.G.

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Global IT Corporate Legal Director

Slough

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commercial and legal skills. You will preferably have at least 10 years' post qualification experience gained largely in one of the major IT telecoms or electronics companies where you will have had responsibility for a team of legal advisers.

You will enjoy working in a team environment with challenging senior managerial responsibility for the legal processes of a business that involves high value, complex contracting for diverse business environments.

If you have the skills, desire and experience to take advantage of this exciting opportunity, then please send your CV together with contact and salary details in complete confidence to Daniel Richards at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LN, fax 0171 831 6662, or telephone him on 0171 269 2234.

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London

The Wellcome Trust currently spends some £250 million on research every year — laying the foundations for the healthcare advances of the next century and helping to maintain the UK's reputation as one of the world's leading scientific nations.

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- Experience of applying legal expertise to a range of business and legal problems.
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PRIVATE PRACTICE & IN-HOUSE

CORPORATE RECOVERY £TOP CITY
Market leading corporate recovery group at top City firm seeks 2-3 year qualified transactional insolvency lawyer. You need to be astute, ambitious and have experience of rescues, reconstructions, administrations, etc., to join this dynamic department. If you welcome high levels of responsibility and the opportunity to travel we would like to hear from you. (Ref:20120)

IN-HOUSE IT 2.5 YRS PQE £CITY
International bank with strong European business seeks IT lawyer to work in a specialist team supporting other parts of the business. You will join a team with a high profile externally. You will ideally be 3-5 years qualified with an in depth knowledge of the technical aspects and commercial demands of the IT sector. Wide range of work, which will include software development, acquisitions and restructuring. Experience with an end-user or supplier preferred. (Ref:20214)

SENIOR EMPLOYMENT £50-70,000
This is a clearly defined role for a 5 year plus qualified solicitor to act as number two to the lead employment lawyer at this top 20 City firm. The firm is growing at a steady rate and enjoys a leading position in the London corporate and financial markets. Working with other talented lawyers on high profile work you will be assured of a supportive environment with excellent prospects. (Ref:10446)

IT £50,000
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EC COMPETITION £24,000
Unique City practice with enviable blue chip corporate connections seeks 2-3 year qualified lawyer with EC Competition experience to join growing and dynamic corporate/commercial department. An excellent opportunity for you to make your mark if you are a highly talented lawyer with good experience in this sector. If you see a logjam ahead, this will be the ideal move. (Ref:10330)

For further information on these, and the many other vacancies registered with us, please contact: Yvonne Smyth or Andrew Golding (both qualified lawyers) on 0171-523 3838 (0173-469564 evenings/weekends). For in-house vacancies please contact Lisa Hicks on 0171-523 3838 (0171-642 5337 evenings/weekends) or write to us at: ZMB, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 8PY. Confidential fax 0171-523 3839. E-mail yvonne@zmb.co.uk Web site <http://www.zmb.co.uk>

FINANCIAL SERVICES £55-80,000
This profitable, well managed medium sized City firm has significantly increased its market share of the highly competitive financial services sector, advising in particular on the regulatory framework governing commodities, securities and funds. Now seeking a dynamic lawyer with short term partnership aspiration and a complementary portfolio of contacts to slot into the team. (Ref:20533)

IN-HOUSE COMMERCIAL TO £70,000
Highly successful logistics plc with household name customers seeks a 4-6 year qualified commercial lawyer to set up the London based legal function. If you have good commercial experience, ideally including exposure to high value contract negotiations, and relish the challenge of starting a department from scratch in a thriving business this will definitely be of interest. (Ref:20422)

PROPERTY FINANCE (RETRAINED) TO £50,000
Pre-eminent City property department with unrivalled quality and flow of work is seeking 1-4 year qualified lawyers to specialize in innovative property finance work. Excellent academic essential. Due to unprecedented growth in this sector, candidates with good property financing experience and a desire to be recruited are actively encouraged to apply. (Ref:10076)

CONSTRUCTION TO £28,000
Central London firm with pre-eminent reputation in the property and construction sectors seeks 2-3 year qualified lawyer with contentious experience to join their construction team. Exciting opportunity for a talented, commercially astute lawyer with a keen interest in complex transactions which have an increasingly international projects flavour. (Ref:20252)

IN-HOUSE JUNIOR COMMERCIAL £28,000
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IN-HOUSE PRACTICE

► Intellectual Property

This major international services company seeks an information technology lawyer/Patent Attorney to join its international HQ and deal with all aspects of intellectual property including patents, trademarks, copyright and licensing agreements. Contact Rachael North. Ref:2534

► Senior IT Counsel

£CITY
This global information solutions company seeks a 5 to 7 year qualified IT lawyer to draft and negotiate an extensive range of IT contracts and provide advice on general commercial matters. Contact Rachael North. Ref:148RN

► Company Commercial - NO

Berkshire
A newly qualified lawyer is required for this well known information technology company to join a small team and assume a commercial role. Contact Rachael North. Ref:2348RN

► Company/Commercial

West End
This private international company seeks a 3 to 5 year qualified lawyer to join a small team. You will act as Company Secretary and Legal Adviser and deal with a varied workload including company/commercial law, contracts, employment, IP and property matters. Contact Rachael North. Ref:3080RM

► Assistant Group Counsel

Dublin
This highly successful US based multinational now has an opportunity for a lawyer with at least 5 years experience including some gained in or at least a qualification from the USA. The role encompasses Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Contact Naveen Tuli. Ref:114NT

► Senior Information Technology

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This major computer manufacturer requires a 5 to 10 year qualified lawyer from either private practice or in-house with international Information Technology experience. The position will involve some travel. Contact Naveen Tuli. Ref:494NT

► Senior Legal Counsel

Paris
This leading French telecommunications company has an opportunity for a lawyer with some French to undertake an international role involving complex high value contracts. Contact Naveen Tuli. Ref:387NT

► Banking/Finance/Capital Markets

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We are pleased to announce that we have recently been joined by St. John Whittle, a banking solicitor from a major City firm. St. John is developing our existing business within this sector and we have opportunities for solicitors and barristers with relevant experience at all levels. Contact St. John Whittle. Ref:69AF

► Securities Lawyer

National Firm - London Office
Our client has a growing reputation in the media industry. With the expansion of the British film industry, an interesting niche is developing for a banking lawyer with between 3 and 5 years general experience who would like to specialise in media finance. Contact Andre Field. Ref:2117AF

► Commercial Litigation

Kent
This leading South East commercial practice has an opening for a commercial litigator, newly to 2 years qualified. This is an excellent opportunity for a young litigator to specialise early and establish a name for him or herself in quality property litigation. Contact Andre Field.

► Media Banking

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Telecoms - with a broad background of advising on industry issues.

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Chambers Research

The new edition of our directory has had a greater impact than any previous edition. It has always been well-researched. Research was its trademark. But this time the effort we put in is more noticeable. There are more research findings actually reproduced in the editorial. Chambers' alert firms and individuals are more precise, reflecting verbatim the opinions of the market.

Readers have also reacted favourably to the fact that this edition has been audited by the British Market Research Bureau (BMRB). The audit team of a dozen auditors and a statistician spent six months from January to June conducting lengthy interviews with practitioners and clients. Over 4,000 interviews in total were held, covering all the main areas of practice.

The BMRB executive who investigated us questioned our research team and carried out independent checks to ensure a clean bill. "We have audited Chambers' research methods and found them well-tailored to their aim, which is to identify the leading lawyers in all the main areas of law. Their methodology is valid, and the implementation is of a high professional standard."

The book is bigger and heavier than ever, with nearly 1,700 pages, and the price has gone up to £40, but with all the information it now contains we trust it will continue to be one of Hammick's Top Ten best-sellers.

Michael Chambers

CHAMBERS' DIRECTORY
Our legal directory is available from Biblio. (01403 - 710 971)

INDUSTRY Sonya Reyner, Fiona Boxall, Morwenna Lewis, Alison Shepherd

Property/Commercial: Derby

Luxury goods company needs solicitor c. 3-4 years' pgc for mixed role including commercial conveyancing, commercial contracts and some company secretarial.

Consumer Goods: N Home Counties

Household name requires lawyer min 5 years' pgc to be responsible for international commercial issues.

Strong negotiating skills essential and French an advantage. Considerable travel.

Employment: Berkshire

Junior lawyer sought to handle non-contentious employment and personnel matters, some contentious employment work and general commercial/company secretarial.

Partnership Positions

We have been assisting partners seeking a career move for over 20 years now and are regularly placing several partners each month.

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Large, profitable and well managed City firm seeks insurance/reinsurance partner with substantial following to head an exciting new business project.

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Prestigious US firm seeks a senior transactional solicitor (corporate and/or finance experience) for its London office. Practice unindented with work.

Construction: West End

Leading West End firm seeks non-contentious construction assistant with up to 5 years' pgc to handle high quality domestic and international work.

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Small, upmarket firm seeks senior solicitor for broad range of work for private company clients. Greater emphasis on law than on rainmaking.

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One of London's largest law firms wishes to supplement its existing team of commercial lawyers and is seeking a contracts litigator with at least 4 years experience. You will work as part of a focused team, initially dealing with the trial of a large commercial fraud claim but with the option to become involved in other cases. Contact Samantha Knowles. Ref:2987SK

► Employment

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This leading commercial law firm with a strong international practice is recruiting an employment solicitor with up to 5 years post qualification experience. You will be handling non-contentious work, mainly of a transactional nature. Contact Samantha Knowles. Ref:568SK

► Company Commercial - NO

Berkshire
A newly qualified lawyer is required for this well known information technology company to join a small team and assume a commercial role. Contact Rachael North. Ref:2348RN

► Company/Commercial

West End
This private international company seeks a 3 to 5 year qualified lawyer to join a small team. You will act as Company Secretary and Legal Adviser and deal with a varied workload including company/commercial law, contracts, employment, IP and property matters. Contact Rachael North. Ref:1490UF

► Banking/Capital Markets

City
This leading US practice now requires finance lawyers with City training and between 6 months and 4 years experience to undertake an international role involving complex high value contracts. Ref:3080RM

► General Commercial

Paris
This specialist Indian firm with offices in 2 continents requires a newly to 3 year qualified lawyer with general commercial experience to work in Paris for their small, successful practice. Contact Daniel Lewis. Ref:1522DL

► Senior Information Technology

Berkshire
This major computer manufacturer requires a 5 to 10 year qualified lawyer from either private practice or in-house with international Information Technology experience. The position will involve some travel. Contact Naveen Tuli. Ref:494NT

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Kent
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The role will involve regular contact with partners and with colleague Directors of Library & Information Services and of Training, as well as liaison with the firm's International Know-How Centre.

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North West - Great opportunity for senior co/commercial lawyer with experience of competition and IP law to join blue chip company in international "hands on" role.

I.T. COMPANY 3yrs + N. London- Major IT co seeks experienced IT lawyer to advise upon systems integration or facilities management agreements. Position initially offered on a contract basis with good prospect of becoming long term/permanent.

CONSTRUCTION c.2yrs
Midlands - Household name co, seeks non-contentious lawyer to join established team, handling full range of construction work.

COMMERCIAL 3-5yrs
M4 Corridor - Dynamic, fast expanding high-tech company seeks lawyer for Europe wide role handling wide range of commercial contracts. Good prospects to grow with co.

Please contact Caroline Fish or Sophie Brooks (London), Liz Neeser (Regions) or Bridget Burdon (In-House) on 0171 430 1711 or write to Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EW. Fax 0171 831 4186.

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New role for Employment lawyer 5 yrs + ppe to exchange fee-earning work for support function in a progressive City practice.

PROPERTY FINANCE Package + car
New entrepreneurial practice seeks Property Finance lawyer 2-6 yrs ppe to undertake top quality work. Excellent package & prospects.

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If you are a strong commercial lawyer wishing to specialise in IT law our client, a leader in this field, offers an excellent opportunity to undertake first class quality of work with good training.

18months-3yrs
M4 Corridor - Dynamic, fast expanding high-tech company seeks lawyer for Europe wide role handling wide range of commercial contracts. Good prospects to grow with co.

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About the Applicants

The Division wishes to recruit two intelligent and personable lawyers - one up to 2 years qualified and another up to 4 years qualified. They should possess an excellent academic record and ideally some knowledge of the insurance/reinsurance industry. Languages would be an advantage.

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construction lawyers - 2-5 years PQE

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As part of their role, our non-contentious construction lawyers form an integral part of the Firm's cross-departmental Projects Group which is a market leader in PFI work. On the contentious side our construction team makes a significant contribution to our reputation as the leading litigation practice in the UK. Much of the work involves international arbitrations, and we are at the forefront of encouraging and developing the use of ADR procedures.

To support the continuing expansion of our construction practice, we wish to recruit additional lawyers who specialise in either contentious or non-contentious work with 2-5 years relevant experience. Applicants should be enthusiastic and committed team players who can demonstrate sound commercial acumen.

We offer highly competitive salary and a full range of benefits. There is exceptional scope for individual development and partnership is a realistic prospect for those with drive and ability.

If you would like to be considered for a position in our construction law practice, please send your CV in strict confidence to:

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Human Resources Executive

Herbert Smith
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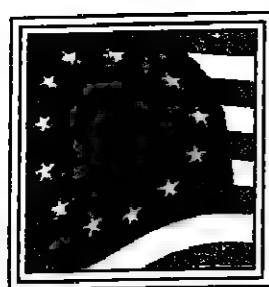
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TENNIS

Maclagan avenges Davis Cup reverse

BY ALEX RAMSAY

AS THE Samsung Open eased quietly into life in Bournemouth yesterday, Greg Rusedski was still cruising at 35,000 feet on his way back from New York. It is about 3,000 miles from Flushing Meadows to Bournemouth, where the total prize-fund is \$400,000 (around £250,000), only a fraction more than Rusedski received on Sunday night after losing to Patrick Rafter.

The switch from the razzmatazz of the Big Apple, the packed 23,000-seater Arthur Ashe Stadium and the speed of the court to the genteel surroundings of the West Hants club — where the centre court can accommodate a mere 2,800 spectators and the clay surface is likely to remove much of the sting from the Rusedski service — will be difficult even for one whose stature and ranking has improved so much this year.

Rusedski is the man the public wants to see. Since the weekend and the realisation that the new British No 1 could



Maclagan in the swing at Bournemouth yesterday, where he made a nonsense of the rankings by defeating Wayne Black, of Zimbabwe

go all the way in the US Open, ticket sales on the South Coast have taken a healthy upturn and there have been endless inquiries concerning Rusedski's opening match. Win or lose against Alberto Martin tomorrow, the crowd will forgive Rusedski anything.

With Tim Henman missing the tournament for the second year in succession — last season he was injured, this year he prefers to sample the delights of Tasfikent rather than risk his reputation on a clay court — Rusedski is the man of the moment.

For all the gibes about Rusedski's Canadian origins, he has done more than his share to promote the British game. He has turned out for home tournaments, committed himself to the Davis Cup and has been a regular at the British national championships in Telford since he was adopted by the Lawn Tennis Association in 1995.

Rusedski is the man the public wants to see. Since the weekend and the realisation that the new British No 1 could

not need 122 from the final 20 overs.

After Richard Dalton, a former captain of the England indoor team, had restricted Devon with five for 43, Wayne Larkins and Andy Roberts frustrated their attack with an opening stand of 92 in 30 overs.

Larkins skied a catch to deep cover after completing a half-century and finishing with 865 championship runs this season, to add to his 1,024 last summer.

TONI HEWITT

moths was high on his list of priorities, whatever the outcome of the final at Flushing Meadows. Maybe Henman was sensible to head for Uzbekistan, for the entry for Bournemouth is a strong one. Rusedski, for all his exploits in the United States, is seeded no higher than No 39. Next, Carlos Moyà, the top seed, was the runner-up at the Australian Open and Cedric Pioline, seed-

ed No 4, was a finalist at Wimbledon. The No 2 seed is Felix Mantilla, the world No 14, who has won four titles on clay this year.

Rusedski leads a five-strong British contingent, one of whom, Miles Maclagan, was in action yesterday, making his way into the second round with a 6-3, 3-6, 6-0 win over Wayne Black, from Zimbabwe. Early on, the match was

strewn with errors, but Maclagan ironed out most of them and was in total command during the third set.

Black, who together with his brother, Byron, ended Britain's hopes of promotion in the Davis Cup in April, has jumped up the rankings over the past six months to stand at No 115 while Maclagan is 184 places behind him at No 297. However, Maclagan, too,

has been moving in the right direction recently, even if the improvement has not gained the same attention accorded to Rusedski.

"It's a bit like them and us I suppose," he said. "At the moment Greg and Tim are in different worlds from the rest of us. But myself, Andrew Richardson, Janice Delgado — we all knew Tim in the juniors and we knew what he was like

then and what has happened since. So, you never know . . .

Maclagan will be joined in the second round by at least one more Briton as Mark Peartrey and Danny Sapsford play each other today.

Chris Wilkinson, who opted to play a satellite event rather than try to qualify for the US Open, faces a qualifier, Alastair Hunt, from New Zealand, in the first round.

CRICKET: CHAMPIONSHIP SECURED AGAIN AS RUN-RATE PROVES BEYOND BEDFORDSHIRE

Devon answer Roebuck's challenge

BY MICHAEL AUSTIN

LUTON (final day of two): Devon beat Bedfordshire on superior run-rate

IN WINNING the Minor Counties championship for an unprecedented fourth consecutive season, Devon overcame a spirited second-day revival by Bedfordshire, who have not succeeded in taking a title for 25 years.

The match, a fine advertisement for cricket at this level, was given new life by Devon struggling to 99 for six in their second innings and Peter Roebuck setting a sporting victory target of 278 from 67 overs. Devon's win was on higher overall run-rate, Bedfordshire finishing 27 short of the required total yesterday.

To some, Roebuck's declaration may have seemed challenging with Bedfordshire having been restricted to 119 for nine on the first day, but this modest total on an awkward pitch contradicted their impressive run-making this season.

The sun-baked surface eased and Bedfordshire reverted to batting excellence, though not perfection as they fell short in an exciting finale

after needing 122 from the final 20 overs.

After Richard Dalton, a former captain of the England indoor team, had restricted Devon with five for 43, Wayne Larkins and Andy Roberts frustrated their attack with an opening stand of 92 in 30 overs.

Larkins skied a catch to deep cover after completing a half-century and finishing with 865 championship runs this season, to add to his 1,024 last summer.

TONI HEWITT



Donohue attempts to sweep during the Devon second innings

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Axia Life League

Northamptonshire v Durham

NORTHAMPTON (Durham won toss): Northamptonshire Axia beat Durham by five wickets

DURHAM

J E Morris (B) 100; N Hutton c T M Bailey b Swann 20; N P Sutton c Curran b Wood 30; J D Cullinan not out; R M Weston c T M Bailey b Swann 6; R M Weston c T M Bailey b Swann 6; J Wood run out; J Dobson not out; Extras (b, lb, w, n) 15; Total (5 wickets, 40 overs) 186; N Klien, M J Sagger and A Walker did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-102, 2-186, 3-182, 4-210, 5-223, 6-259, 7-289; 8-292, 9-302, 10-322, 11-324, 12-324, 13-324, 14-324, 15-324; 16-324, 17-324, 18-324, 19-324, 20-324.

MINOR COUNTIES championship final

BEDFORDSHIRE v Devon

LUTON (rest day of two): Devon beat Bedfordshire on a higher run rate in their draw game

DEVON First Innings 216 for 6 (in 40.5 overs); 58; P M Roebuck not out

SECOND INNINGS

N R Montague not out; A J Tudor c Bailey b Swann 20; J M Sutton c Curran b Swann 30; J M P Speight c Curran b Swann 30; J D Cullinan not out; R M Weston c T M Bailey b Swann 6; J Wood run out; J Dobson not out; Extras (b, lb, w, n) 15; Total (5 wickets, 40 overs) 186; N Klien, M J Sagger and A Walker did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-102, 2-186, 3-182, 4-210, 5-223, 6-259, 7-289; 8-292, 9-302, 10-322, 11-324, 12-324, 13-324, 14-324, 15-324; 16-324, 17-324, 18-324, 19-324, 20-324.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

R R Montague not out; A J Tudor c Bailey b Swann 20; J M Sutton c Curran b Swann 30; J M P Speight c Curran b Swann 30; J D Cullinan c Bailey b Swann 6; J Wood run out; J Dobson not out; Extras (b, lb, w, n) 15; Total (5 wickets, 40 overs) 186; N Klien, M J Sagger and A Walker did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-102, 2-186, 3-182, 4-210, 5-223, 6-259, 7-289; 8-292, 9-302, 10-322, 11-324, 12-324, 13-324, 14-324, 15-324; 16-324, 17-324, 18-324, 19-324, 20-324.

DEVON First Innings 119 for 9 (in 40 overs); 58; P M Roebuck not out; A J Tudor c Bailey b Swann 20; J M Sutton c Curran b Swann 30; J M P Speight c Curran b Swann 30; J D Cullinan c Bailey b Swann 6; J Wood run out; J Dobson not out; Extras (b, lb, w, n) 15; Total (5 wickets, 50 overs) 186; N Klien, M J Sagger and A Walker did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-102, 2-186, 3-182, 4-210, 5-223, 6-259, 7-289; 8-292, 9-302, 10-322, 11-324, 12-324, 13-324, 14-324, 15-324; 16-324, 17-324, 18-324, 19-324, 20-324.

DURHAM (rest day of two): N Klien b Maddy 1; Total (5 wickets, 50 overs) 186; N Klien b Maddy 1.

AON RISK TROPHY Final

GLOUCESTERSHIRE v Surrey

BRISTOL (Gloucestershire won toss): Gloucestershire beat Surrey by three wickets

SUSSEX (rest day of two): Sussex beat Gloucestershire by three wickets

OXFORDSHIRE (rest day of two): Oxfordshire beat Gloucestershire by three wickets

WORCESTERSHIRE (rest day of two): Worcestershire beat Gloucestershire by three wickets

LEICESTERSHIRE (rest day of two): Leicestershire beat Gloucestershire by three wickets

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (rest day of two): Nottinghamshire beat Gloucestershire by three wickets

SHROPSHIRE (rest day of two): Shropshire beat Gloucestershire by three wickets

DERBYSHIRE (rest day of two): Derbyshire beat Gloucestershire by three wickets

WARWICKSHIRE (rest day of two): Warwickshire beat Gloucestershire by three wickets

HEREFORDSHIRE (rest day of two): Herefordshire beat Gloucestershire by three wickets

MONMOUTHSHIRE (rest day of two): Monmouthshire beat Gloucestershire by three wickets

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WELSH CRICKET BOARD (rest day of two): Welsh Cricket Board beat Gloucestershire by three wickets

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Elite clubs let guard drop

BY SARAH POTTER

WOMEN'S cricket went on to the front foot this summer in a determined effort to raise its profile and credibility. England's series win over South Africa was deserved and reflected the behind-the-scenes attempt to be more professional and image-conscious.

A pity, then, that the Premier League final, supposedly the most prized domestic club competition, was such a poor advertisement for the game.

The 50-overs match, played at Milton Keynes on Sunday, was a repeat of the final last year, in which the South's champions, Invicta, of Kent, beat their northern counterparts, Wakefield, on the last ball of the match. Although the sides contrived another close finish on Sunday, any sense of excitement was lost among the finger-fingered fielding and naive tactics.

It was curiously low-key from the start. The pitch was slow and spiritless. Invicta opted to bat and in doing so had to contend with the more difficult conditions. But that is how they won it last year and they believed in their own psychology, despite

being restricted to 134 for eight, in the absence of long run-ups and with no fielding restrictions, the slow over-rate of both sides was baffling.

Wakefield inexcusably failed to bowl their 50 overs in the required three hours.

Mountain-bikers riding on the hillside paused only briefly, perhaps to register the white skirts once again on view instead of trousers. Even traditional dress looked scruffy as one player rolled down her socks and puffed a cigarette at the boundary edge during the afternoon drinks interval; just the image that England players do not want watching eyes to see.

One of the spectators was Jo Jordan (née Chamberlain), England's outstanding player of the 1993 World Cup final at Lord's. She remains an ever-present supporter, but she no longer has the will to play. How sad that the game could not hold on to such a talent.

There, though, lies the biggest problem for women's cricket. How to bridge the yawning gap between club and country. Clare Taylor, one of Wakefield's three internationals, said that the drop in standards can sometimes make motivation difficult.

"You have to make allowances for players who maybe aren't going to stop the ball or take catches," she said.

"That's hard when you've just come from an England set-up."

Montgomery, who has endured a lean season, finished with 86 from 113 balls, his best score in this competition.

There are times when Durham

have performed as though they were proud to defend the wooden spoon. Here, though, they fielded diligently and, despite the absence of Brown, their best bowler, because of a side injury, offered no width until the closing stages.

Cheshire may have been, but Durham yesterday still squandered a good opportunity to beat county opposition away from home for the first time in any competition since August 1995. Northamptonshire climbed two places to tenth in the Axa Life League, but Durham remain second from bottom and Alan Walker kicked over a stump in disappointment after Tim Walton had struck him for the winning boundary with an over to spare.

The Durham total of 185 for six on a slow pitch seemed reasonable enough. The home side subsided to 118 and, but Walton, dropped by Wood on 25, and Richard Montgomerie added 68 in ten overs in an unbroken sixth-wicket partnership.

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AMERICAN FOOTBALL: DRUCKENMILLER STEPS IN TO LEAD SAN FRANCISCO TO VICTORY

49ers unearth golden prospect

By OLIVER HOLT

IT WAS not a flawless start and the name has not got quite the same ring to it as Joe Montana or Steve Young, but on Sunday, San Francisco 49ers supporters were given their first glimpse of the player who is being tipped by many to become the franchise's leading star.

Jim Druckenmiller, the young quarterback who the 49ers gave the honour of being their No 1 pick from the college draft in the summer, completed only ten of his 28 passes on his National Football League (NFL) debut against St Louis Rams and threw three interceptions in a sloppy, scrappy game. But Druckenmiller, who was playing only because Young is suffering from yet another concussion and his back-up, Jeff Brohm, has a broken finger on his throwing hand, shrugged those reverses off to throw the two touchdowns that took the 49ers to a 15-12 win in the Trans World Dome

Results 45

in St Louis and gave Steve Mariucci, the new San Francisco coach, his first win.

The victory and Druckenmiller's courage in adversity came as a timely boost for the 49ers, a rare sign of the promise of youth in a team that has increasingly seemed to be dominated by injuries to its veteran star players. Young tottered from concussion to concussion last season and last week San Francisco lost their wide receiver, Jerry Rice, for the rest of the season with a knee injury.

Young's problems, and the team's failure to reach the Super Bowl last season after their play-off defeat to Green Bay Packers, led to speculation that the 49ers might replace him with Elvis Grbac this season. Grbac, however, was traded to Kansas City Chiefs and Druckenmiller brought in to be groomed as the long-term replacement instead. Druckenmiller's showing on Sunday, though, hinted that he may bring pressure to bear on Young sooner rather than later.



Farr and Jones, of St Louis Rams, combine to block Floyd, the 49ers running back. Photograph: Stephen Dunn/Allsport

In terms of quarterback performances on the NFL's second Sunday, however, Druckenmiller was outshone by Drew Bledsoe, of New England Patriots, who threw four touchdown passes for the second week in succession as his team overcame Indianapolis Colts 31-6.

The Patriots, who lost to the Packers in the Super Bowl in January, have now scored 72 points in their opening two

games — more than any other team — and are playing with such poise and confidence that they are setting the standard for the rest. To the delight of Bledsoe, in particular, the defection of their former coach, Bill Parcells, to New York Jets, appears to have affected them not at all.

Parcells' honeymoon in New York, which began with a crushing victory over Seattle Seahawks last week, ended at

the Meadowlands in New Jersey, where the Jets lost 28-22 to Buffalo Bills, one of the few teams that the Jets might actually have been expected to beat this season.

There was also an unpleasant surprise for the Packers, who lost 10-9 to Philadelphia Eagles in Veterans Stadium and also failed to score a touchdown in a game for the first time since October 18, 1992, a span covering 85

regular-season and play-off games.

With some of the strongest teams from last season, the Patriots and Denver Broncos among them already showing formidable form, Mike Holmgren, the Packers coach, said that the defeat might shake Green Bay out of any complacency lingering from their Super Bowl triumph. "This is an early wake-up call for us," he said.

RUGBY UNION: CLUB DEMANDS CLARIFICATION AS NEXT ROUND OF EUROPEAN MATCHES APPROACHES

Bath resort to law on issue of padding

By DAVID HANDS

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

BATH will seek urgent clarification of the law regarding protective padding for players after their experience in the first round of Heineken Cup matches, at Pontypool on Sunday. Around 30 minutes before the kick-off of a match that Bath ultimately won, their coaching staff were embroiled in legal interpretations that at one stage caused them to wonder whether they should play the game at all.

This is an issue with which rugby union has grappled for

many years and which the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) is still debating. Protective pads or vests have become the norm in the southern hemisphere — both South Africa and the British Isles wore them during the summer series — but Law 4 still forbids shoulder pads or padded undergarments.

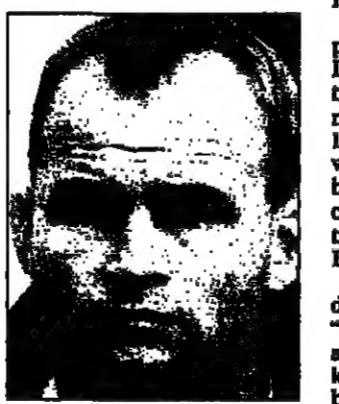
Bath, conforming to the law, arrived at Sardis Road to find that Pontypool were preparing to play in vests that Bath believed to be illegal. They contacted other English clubs playing in the competition for immediate clarifica-

tion before going ahead with the game, but have now asked Nick Bunting, the Rugby Football Union referee development officer, to handle the matter. It needs to be dealt with swiftly since there is a European Conference game in Galway today and a further round of European fixtures begins on Friday.

"The frustration for us is that when English coaches and referees met in August, we said this would happen, and it did," Andy Robinson, the Bath coaching director, said yesterday. "It's enough to make you tear your hair out when you are proved right but we were told the law would be strictly applied."

Pugh confirmed that the post of chief executive of the IRFB will shortly be advertised after the resignation last month of Tom Wacker after 15 months in office. Wacker was on a five-year contract, but opted to take a release clause after overseeing the transfer of the board from Bristol to Ireland.

"It is a hiatus we could have done without," Pugh said. "Cosmetically there may appear to be a void but knowing what is going on behind the scenes, I don't think there is."



Robinson: frustrated

Pluck of the Irish not enough to prevent Glasgow's victory

Ulster 12
Glasgow 18

By KARL JOHNSTON

AT RAVENHILL last night, Ulster became the third Irish team to fail to sup from the Heineken Cup that cheers, after the defeats of Leinster and Munster over the weekend. Glasgow were obliged to make a few late changes, circumstances that added to the general air of pre-match optimism, but despite two early penalty goals from Stuart Laing, the fly half, that gave Ulster a comfortable six-point cushion within the opening 11 minutes, the home team singularly failed to take the initiative.

True, in the first half, Ulster enjoyed long periods of territorial advantage, but, apart from a fine short-side break by Stephen Bell that all led to a try for Sheldon Coulter on the right wing, they seldom looked like scoring.

In fact, it was at that point that Glasgow took their confidence to a higher level. A scrum followed Coulter's near-miss, Glasgow broke

from defence, Tony Hayes released James Craig and the left wing sped some 60 metres to score, with Hayes landing the easy conversion, while earlier kicked a penalty goal.

Still, it was felt that Ulster would ultimately have the measure of this particular opposition. The pack certainly provided enough ball but, except on occasions, Laing opted not to spread the ball

Matt Tetlow, the Sale centre, was detained overnight in a French hospital after being concussed in his side's 25-16 defeat by Monferrand in the European Conference on Sunday.

wide, and even when he did, Glasgow were never really bothered by Ulster's midfield probing.

Just before the interval, Ulster self-destructed. Laing attempted a cheeky 22-metre drop-out, but the play went horribly wrong. Glasgow gained possession and Murray Wallace, the flanker, raced over the line on the short side for an unconverted try to leave

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

I Qd4+! Kd4 2 Rh+ Qh5 3 Rh+ and White emerges a rook ahead.

THE TIMES

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CHANGING TIMES

TELEVISION CHOICE

Tales of unforgettable times

Holiday Memories

BBC1, 7.00pm
Carol Smillie is fast emerging as a rival to Carol Vorderman, as television's most conspicuous presenter. The latest vehicle for the giggling host of *Changing Rooms* and *National Lottery Live* is this amiable series in which celebrities and ordinary people recall holidays difficult to forget, even if some are probably best forgotten. But distance can lend enchantment, and even humour, to the most calamitous breaks. Thus, nine years on, Mr and Mrs Farnell can entertain us with the story of their wedding in Montego Bay, Jamaica, which fell foul of sunstroke, insect bites and Hurricane Hugo. A family holiday in Connemara went little better for Johnny Ball and his daughter, Zoe, who was then 13. Michael Parkinson has fond recollections of trips to Scarborough, where he watched cricket and proposed to his wife, Mary.



Michael Parkinson (BBC1, 7.00pm)

gating out the credit card and following the edicts of the fashion pages. There is not much here for a size 12 woman of a certain age, who is bigger than a size 12 and needs to watch her budget. One item reveals that French women on average spend twice as much on clothes and beauty products as their British counterparts. Representing the Brits is Louise, who buys her undies at Marks & Spencer and wears them until they fall apart. Instead of applauding her practicality, the show ticks her off for using wire hangers and give her an expensive French-style makeover.

Paul Merton in *Galton and Simpson's...*

ITV, 8.30pm
Ray Galton and Alan Simpson were Tony Hancock's writers and there is more than a touch of Hancock in this comedy playlet about a man who volunteers for a police identity parade and is picked out as the culprit. Like the other scripts in this series, *The Wrong Man* goes back several decades. Perhaps it should have been allowed to remain in period and not updated with jokes about Cherie Blair. It hardly needs them for Galton and Simpson, who wrote many marvellous comic dialogue but also supplied an ingredient so many current sitcoms lack: a plot. All the same, *The Wrong Man* is no masterpiece, but Paul Merton squeezes the most out of it. The keen-eyed will spot Galton and Simpson as the two white-haired men in the ID parade.

Peter Waymark

The Feel Good Factor
Channel 4, 8.00pm
Health is the topic this week as Mark Little travels to villages in Norfolk and Devon to discover whether country living really is good for us. Although the jocular game show format sometimes grates, the programme succeeds in making serious points. Except that the schoolchildren surveyed had many fewer fillings than the national average, rural life can have disadvantages. In both cases, the nearest hospital is more than 20 miles away, though Devon's air ambulance service helps to compensate. On most of the featured tests, in fact, South Zeal in Devon has the edge over Ashfield in Norfolk, whether it is access to alternative medicine or the availability of condoms. Villagers of Ashfield seem to improve their diet with organic food, have to go to a supermarket, and proposed to his wife, Mary.

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Looking Good

BBC2, 8.30pm
The pre-publicity suggested a fashion series that would buck the trend and appeal to all women, not just good-looking under-35s with perfect figures and money to spend. Although this is only programme two, the evidence has yet to emerge. On the contrary, the emphasis seems to be on

RADIO CHOICE

Jam and Jerusalem?

Radio 2, 9.30pm
The centenary of the Women's Institute could hardly pass unnoticed and even though Radio 2 has successfully taken on a younger image of late, the network is the right place for this particular programme, which has been written as a dramatic dialogue. There are a dozen ways to convey the history of an organisation but the one chosen is among the more imaginative. June Whitfield and Jean Sooth play two WI women who are working through the contents of the WI archive. The organisation will not be best pleased with the programme title, notwithstanding the question mark, for there is clearly more to the WI than preserves and hymns and it has done some effective political lobbying over the years.

RADIO 1

7.00am Kevin Greening 8.00 Simon Mayo 8.00 May Arne Hobson 8.15 Nicky Campbell 8.30 Dave Pearce 8.15 Newsbeat 8.30 Evening Session with Steve Lamacq 8.30 Digital Update 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Charlie Jordan 10.30 Clive Waman 4.00 Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up To Wogan 8.30 Ken Stewart 11.30 Jeremy Paxman 1.30 Carol Daws Classics 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Walker 7.00 Carl Davis Classics 8.00 Wayne Marshall's Organ Spectacular. The first of an eight-part series in which Wayne Marshall plays popular classics on the organ of the English Church. 8.00 Mike Emmerich 8.30 Jim and Janice 8.30 Chorus 10.30 Richard Almond 12.30 Steve Madson 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 3

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 9.00 The Magazine 12.00 Midday With Mar 2.00 Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Julian Worricker Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.35 The Tuesday Match includes action from the Nationwide League and the fourth round of the Scottish Coca-Cola Cup 10.00 News Talk 11.00 News Extra with Anne Webster 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

RADIO 4

5.00am On Air, with Penny Rose. Includes A Scarf (Save Regrets); Ravel (Introduction and Allegro); Handel (Flute Sonata in A minor, HWV274); Hallenser No 1; Tchaikovsky (Marche Slave); Glazunov (Ala Spagnuolo Orientale, Novelettes, Op 15); Weber (Konzerstück in F minor)

9.00am Concerto Bernstein, introduced by Calmon Yon. Includes Bernstein (Overture: Concerto; Bach (Trio Sonata in C, BWV1030); Debussy (Images))

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chris de Souza. Includes Scriabin (Prelude in G sharp minor, Op 16 No 2); Strauss (Die Abend); Prokofiev (Violin Sonata No 1, Op 80); Strauss (Schlagtgesang, Op 45 No 1); Jadin (String Quartet, Op 3 No 1); Brahms (Piano Concerto in E minor); Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto in E minor)

12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Verdi 1.00pm News; Summer Ensemble, Cuor d'Orchestra; Haydn (String Quartet in G minor, Op 20 No 3); 4.00 Julian Worricker Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.35 The Tuesday Match includes action from the Nationwide League and the fourth round of the Scottish Coca-Cola Cup 10.00 News Talk 11.00 News Extra with Anne Webster 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 9.00 The Magazine 12.00 Midday With Mar 2.00 Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Julian Worricker Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.35 The Tuesday Match includes action from the Nationwide League and the fourth round of the Scottish Coca-Cola Cup 10.00 News Talk 11.00 News Extra with Anne Webster 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night with Rhod Sharp

RADIO 6

6.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Alan Mann 9.00 Harry Kelly 12.00 Lunchtime Requests 2.00 Concerto 3.00 Jamie Clegg 7.00 Newmarket 7.30 Sonate, Brahms (Violin Sonata in D minor, Op 10); 8.00 Concert, Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 1 in C major, Op 15); 8.30 Konzert-Sonate (Heinecke, Op 35) 10.00 Michael Mainprize 2.00am Concerto (Horn)

CLASSIC FM

3.00am Paul Ross and Carol McGrath 8.00 Scottish Chamber Orchestra 10.00 Lorraine Keelan 11.00 Peter Delaney 7.00 Anne Raesum 9.00 James Whistle 10.00 Ian Collins

VIRGIN RADIO

7.00am Russ 'n' Jono 10.00 Graham Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4.00 Rob Banks 6.00 Paul Coyle (FM) / Nick Abbott (AM) 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Richard Porter

RADIO 3

5.15 In Tune. Petros Tsalavas previews the Sounds Like Manchester competition. Includes Dvorak (Carnival Overture); Lennox Berkeley (Serenade for Strings); Ravel (La Valse)

7.30 BBC Proms 97. Emanuel Ax, piano, European Union Youth Orchestra, under Bernard Haitink. Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 4 in G) 8.05 To the Great Grey of God. Stephen Johnson explores the composer's mind and uncover what inspired his musical structures. 8.25 Concert, part two. Bruckner (Symphony No 7 in E)

8.25 Lost in London. Andrew Green recreates the musical life of the Argyle Room which stood where Oxford Circus is now. It was the venue that saw the first performance in England of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony (2/25)

10.15 Alfredo Casella, Sinfonia, Op 46 performed by Music Group of London

10.45 The Authority of Faffure. Julian Evans reprises three ill-fated decisions made by the author

F. Scott Fitzgerald. The first was his disastrous marriage to Zelda, followed by his difficult relationship with Hemingway and finally, his last days in Hollywood (2/25)

11.30 Proms Composer of the Week: Schubert (1)

12.30am Jazz Notes. Digby Fairweather introduces a session from Cliff Biffen's New Europe Jazz Band

1.00 Through the Night, with David Corlett. Includes 1.00 Northern Encounters. Toronto Symphony Orchestra, under Jukka-Pekka Saraste. With the Polyphony Choir, Jacqueline Shave, Matthias Goerne, Boris Brott, Eric Schneider, piano. (Sehnsucht, D836; Gruppe aus dem Tartarus, D838; Enrme; Der Flieg; Schwanengesang)

Playwright brings back capital punishment

It's still early days in Tony Marchant's *Holding On* (BBC2), but one thing you can feel pretty sure about in this new eight-part drama about the grislier aspects of surviving in 1990s London is that the English Tourist Board won't be nagging Marchant for copies to use in its promotional "Visit Britain" campaigns.

Holding On is the television equivalent of a Leonard Cohen record — seductive, but depressing at the same time: television to commit suicide by. It will make all those country mice who trill about their uninterrupted green views trill that little bit more, though what they don't realise is that we Londoners actually regard uninterrupted green views as inhospitable deserts between one hubbub of activity and another — deserts which are made doubly inconvenient by the lack of passing taxis.

If you found *Short Cuts*, Robert Altman's mesmerising collage of

Los Angeles life, depressing, then you might do better to skip this series altogether. Along with *Short Cuts*, Marchant draws inspiration from two other portraits of cities in a state: Tom Wolfe's *Bonfire of the Vanities* and Dickens' *Our Mutual Friend* — only Marchant swaps Dickens' Thames for the London Underground, whose strap-hangers (hence *Holding On*) have been turned into zombies by years of abuse, injustice, compacency and indifference. And outside the Tube, life is often even worse.

As with *Short Cuts*, Marchant has assembled a cast of characters who collide and scatter like smokers' balls, only to collide again later. Tycoons, tax inspectors, temps and taxi drivers find their lives are woven together like a plait.

In this opening episode Marchant pulls off the trick of giving us a tour of his broad tapestry without losing us in the maze of mini-plots that he has just

set up. The dialogue doesn't jar. There are none of the diamond geezers which serve as television shorthand for seedy London. Everyone seems ordinary, plausible, which is what gives the resulting chaos its punch: something similar could be waiting for any one of us around the next corner.

All the cast shine, although Phil Daniels — who must be glad to have found a new glow to baste in after loitering so long in the one from *Quadruphenia* — has been lucky to draw one of the more flamboyant roles. He plays Gary Richey, a boozey, bed-hopping, Jack-the-Lad restaurant critic with a professionally unhelpful digestive problem. It's a role that underlines the power of Marchant's imagination since few real-life restaurant critics match such a description.

However, Marchant claims to have inserted colourful caricatures

from the London media scene into the text, so people will be trying to spot the real people behind the fiction: all you could say for certain is that Gary Richey is not based on Andrew Lloyd-Webber's dining column in *The Daily Telegraph*.

The tone of *Holding On* was conveyed most tellingly in the final sequence of last night's programme. A minicab driver, waiting for his client outside a

restaurant in a busy road, witnesses the murder in a telephone box of Sally Friel (Fleur Mould) — a young temp who is being sexually harassed by her boss and has just plucked up the courage to report him. She is stabbed repeatedly in the belly by Alan, a disturbed schizophrenic (Sean Gallagher) who has been released under the Care in the Community scheme (does that ring any bells in real life?) for want of either an empty hospital bed or a concerned enough doctor. What does the cabbie do? Chase after the murderer? Call the police? No. He slowly winds up his window. Then? He locks all the doors. It's not what you call an optimistic note. But, increasingly, an authentic one.

Listen to this snippet, for example: "It's the worst kind of murder," said Sarah. "I'm the worst because if Nina and Jack had been murdered by a stranger, I could forever wonder how come we were

at that place at that time. But to know that their dad quite deliberately did it is very, very difficult."

What's really depressing about Sarah Healey's misery is that she isn't even a character in *Holding On* — in Channel 4's Citizen's Arrest. Sarah's estranged husband, Dr Sulkev Sandhu, known as "Dave", murdered their children Nina, 4, and Jack, 3. He then jumped from a tower block to his own death. OK, it was in Sheffield, not Tony Marchant's London, but there are similar cases of murder followed by suicide involving children every six weeks somewhere in Britain.

Dave murdered the children while they were visiting him. Sarah didn't want to stop her children visiting their father, but because of his history of psychiatric problems and of wife-beating, she wanted the visits supervised.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (72266)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (98247083)
9.05 Referendum Call: Scotland Edward
Sloane chairs a live phone-in.
Simultaneous broadcast with Radio 4
(816118)
9.55 Kirov (T) (972441)
10.35 Change That (1062257)
11.00 News (T) regional news and weather
(433435)
11.05 The Really Useful Show (T) (974354)
11.35 Room for Improvement (2945354)
12.00 News (T) regional news and weather
(680455)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (912248)
12.35 Going for a Song (9035809)
1.00 One O'Clock News (T) and weather
(70731)
1.30 Regional News and weather (T)
(1782335)
1.40 The Weather Show (87847248)
1.45 Neighbours (T) (77625828)
2.10 Quirky (T) (594105)
3.00 Through the Keyhole (7346996)
3.25 Playdays (T) (7358731) 3.50 Peter Pan
and the Pirates (T) (8971847) 4.10
Rugrats (T) (4165373) 4.30 Agent 2
and the Penguin from Mars (T) (T)
(6158712) 5.00 Newsworld (T) (9561248)
5.10 Sykes Grove (T) (7450644)
5.35 Neighbours (T) (6141170)
6.00 Six O'Clock News and weather (793)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (373)
7.00 **Holiday Memories** New
series. Zoe Ball and her father
Johnny revisit Corrie and Michael
Parkinson returns to Scarborough, where
he proposed to his wife Mary; a couple
renew their wedding vows in Jamaica (T)
(5847)
7.30 EastEnders All is not well in the Mitchell
family; (T) (557)
8.00 Vets in Practice Fiona and Trade face
the task of informing devoted owners
their pets have cancer (1267)
8.30 Tiger Bay Beth breaks shocking news to
Sorry, Les in series (3002)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (T) and weather
(2354)
9.30 Rory McGrath's Commercial
Breakdown Weird TV adverts from
around the world, revealing what
Norwegians really think of the British: a
wedding and a funeral (T) (43026)
Water, 9.30 Referendum '97: The
Devolution Debates (523460) 10.20 Rory
McGrath's Commercial Breakdown
(725793) 10.30 Inside Story Special
(3057712) 11.15 FILM: Legal Eagles
(431819) 145 FILM: *Flewby* (11534)
3.25 News Headlines and Weather
(8676535)

10.00 Inside Story Special (T) (4158809)
11.05 Cluey Down Under (1990) starring
Tom Selleck and Alan Rickman. An
Australian western directed by Simon
Wincer (924151)

1.00am Fitzwatty (1987) Comedy with Dick
Hill van Dyke, Barbara Felton and Edith
Evans. Directed by Delbert Mann
(141432)

2.40 Weather (7393936)

Videoplayer+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme
listing are Video PlusCode numbers, which
allow you to programme your video recorder
instantly with a Videoplayer+™ handset. Tap in
the Video PlusCode for the programme you want
with the Videoplayer+™ handset. Videoplayer+™
and Video Programmer are trademarks of
Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am Open University: Hardwick Hall
(4962083) 6.25 Coverdale: Dimanche en
Anjou (4981118) 6.50 Rural Life: Image
and Reality (5781118) 7.15 See Hear
Breakfast News (T) (4829538) 7.30
Smurfs' Adventures (691915) 7.55 Big
Peter (T) (515793) 8.20 Cakie Duke
(764248) 8.30 Rupert (7717538) 8.35
Telebabbles (159703) 9.00 Harry and
the Hendersons (218415) 9.20 Power
Moves: Gymnas (2910606) 9.30 See
Hear (2704610) 10.00 Telebabbles (22606)

10.00 Working Lunch (10286)

11.00 TUC Conference Live coverage of the
conference, including the speech by the
Archbishop of Canterbury (58333)

1.00pm Working Lunch Update (5328649)

1.10 The Craft Hour (4830824)

2.10 News (T) and weather (3237460)

2.15 TUC Conference Tony Blair's keynote
speech (391644)

3.35 News (T) (4201712) 4.00 Ready, Steady,
Cook (286) 4.30 Going, Gone
(6158083) 4.45 Esther: Come (3699034)
5.30 Today's the Day (422)

5.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air Uncle Phil
plans a lavish dinner party for his boss
(T) (34547) WALES: 6.00 Heartbreak
High (486977) 6.45 Soccer: FAW
Invitation Cup (4282151) 9.00 Looking
Good (4016)

6.25 Heartbreak High Students are spooked
by a mysterious figure roaming the
corridors (T) (65793)

7.10 The O Zone Elton John, Kylie Minogue
and Louise talk about their new releases
and future plans (35019)

7.30 Desperately Seeking Donna
Documentary about singer Donna Lewis
(199)

8.00 Return to the Home Front Anne
McKittie sings the praises of cost-
effective wooden houses (28) (5809)

8.30 Looking Good French
Stylized women; hairstyle
transformations; high-street fashion (T)
(1644)

9.00 Have I Got Old News for You (T) (4016)

9.30 Holding On (T) (48625)

10.30 Newsnight (T) (986712)

11.15 Graffiti: Counter Culture
Work Dilemmas (327557)

11.45 A Little Later with Joels Holland (T)
(229977) 12.00 Weather (205946)

12.05 Sam Duckman (3842229) 12.30
Learning Zone: Open University: Given
Enough Rope (393045) 1.00 Vibrations
(50519) 1.30 Making the News (37678)
2.00 Summer Nights (87749) 4.00 BBC
Focus: METV: Music and IT (53107)
4.30 English Heritage: Teaching Primary
History (33364) 5.00 Royal Institution
Discourse (81565)

5.30 News (48039)

5.30 **Presenters** Lowri Turner (8.30pm)

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